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## THE WEST POINT DIFFICULTIES.

AS will be seen from the report of Mr. ASPER, the sub-committee of the House on the West Point affair take the same view of the late troubles at the Academy which we presented some weeks ago. They see that the attempt of the first class to dictate the punishment of offences is a more serious breach of discipline than the offence which it presumed to judge; it is, in fact, mutiny of an organized and aggravated kind. Their recommendations seem to us just and wise, and we do not see how, with a proper regard for the sacredness of military discipline and the good of the Academy, they could have come to any other conclusion. We do not see how the resignations of the three guilty cadets can be considered legal in the face of the regulation that the parent or guardian of a minor cadet must consent in writing before his resignation is accepted.

But this is by no means all the story. Disturbances so grave as those which have lately disturbed the quiet of the Military Academy are not the result of a momentary passion springing up in a class of disciplined students in a well-ordered institution. There must have been smouldering but serious discontent, continued for some time, before the reliance upon discipline of the oldest class could have been broken down. The character of the cadets now in the Academy is reported on all sides to be very high; we must therefore look for some serious cause of offence to them. The committee have discovered that cause, not in the Academy, but with their own colleagues in Congress. They found that the decisions of courts-martial, which should be as sacred at West Point as anywhere in the service, have been systematically broken down by the usual reference to the Department at Washington. Out of twenty-two sentences of dismissal within a few years, it is reported that twenty-one have been disapproved at headquarters, and it is hinted that the cause of this disapproval was the influence of Congressmen, friends of the sentenced cadets.

Foreign observers sent to study the constitution of the American Military Academy have laid stress upon the unusual freedom granted to cadets; many things which in other services are placed in the care of inspectors or are subject to regulations being here left to the honor and manly spirit of the cadets. It cannot be denied that within a certain time this delicate branch of discipline, peculiarly honorable to the cadets, has been in considerable danger. Lying, always the vice of educational institutions, and absent from West Point only in consequence of its peculiar organization and discipline, has found entrance even there; and if it is allowed to become established, the Academy will lose its most honorable distinction.

We think these facts should receive due consideration, and, in view of the peculiar circumstances of the case, should have weight in deciding the course to be pursued by the authorities. Reprehensible as was the conduct of the first class, it was in fact only a violent remonstrance against one of the gravest offences known to the cadets. Their error and crime was that in trying to put down lying they committed the only offence which is worse than lying—mutiny. We think no one will charge them with any desire to subvert the authority of their superiors, or to undermine the discipline of the institution. Their action was one which keeps perfect parallelism with the honor of the Academy and the spirit of its laws; their error was in not

laying out their course in the legal and proper way.

Added to the disciplinary excitement from which West Point has lately suffered, came last Sunday another trial in the burning of a part of the cadet barracks. The cadets turned out, and, the fire engine being frozen up, they had to subdue the flames by throwing on snow. One who saw the whole, and who has felt keenly the charges against the Academy so carelessly made in the daily papers, informs us that no one could have witnessed the quiet submission to a most severe duty, the order, discipline, and effectiveness of lads who have been freely compared with the highway ruffians who make life a terror in some parts of the South, without recognizing the power of the Academy discipline over them, as well as their natural manliness. Frozen feet and hands were common; but in spite of these sufferings, the cadets gave themselves to the saving of Government property, while their own effects were lost in the fire. They are said to have saved property to the value of a million dollars belonging to the United States. For this service, and in recognition of the good-will and discipline shown, the Government can well afford to make some greater return than honorable mention in an order of the day. Under all the circumstances—remembering that offences like those we have discussed come with exceeding rarity, that the crime of the First class was the improper exhibition of a feeling that was in itself commendable, and that there is not the least danger of the Academy's suffering in the future from the course we propose—we think it will be well to pardon the first class and to restore the expelled cadets. A free pardon will not be misunderstood, but received as an expression of the interest felt in the cadets and the Academy by the authorities, and we believe that it will conduce more than any other measure to the welfare of West Point. Let it be clearly understood that there is no disposition to pass lightly over the grave offence of the First class, but that their pardon is the direct reward of an exhibition of discipline and subordination on a rare occasion, following immediately upon the offence for which they might otherwise have been justly punished.

THE Atlantic telegraph reports the consummation of a radical change in the administration of the British army. The London *Observer*, the government organ, is quoted as the authority for the announcement that the system of the purchase and sale of commissions is to be abolished, the present recruiting system radically changed, and the organization of the War Department altered so as to correspond more nearly with that of the navy with its Board of Admiralty. As an incident of this latter change, the Duke of Cambridge is to resign; or in the words of the despatch, "his resignation is probable." It is safe to say, however, that if the changes heralded by the *Observer* are actually carried into effect, the patronage of the Duke of Cambridge will be so far reduced and the dominance of the Horse Guards in the army so thoroughly broken down, that the aristocratic commander-in-chief will rush into resignation from sheer disgust at the rapid march of democratic and modern ideas, and their intrusion into even the sacred precincts of Whitehall. For many years there has been a sharp fight for power between the Horse Guards and the War Office, the former representing the old ideas, antagonistic to change, and the latter the new England of progress. The rule has been in England to put in the War Office a minister of aristocratic antecedents and political weight. He was as matter of fact merely a mouthpiece of the Duke of Cambridge in Parliament. Not having a practical knowledge of military matters, he received his inspiration from his subordinates, who got theirs from the Duke of Cambridge, who alone could give the latter the promotion they looked for. An exception to this rule was Lord Herbert, who was Minister of War under Lord PALMERSTON. Lord HERBERT keenly appreciated the necessity for reorganization in the War Office, but the difficulties were so many and

great that he died without having accomplished the change. The present Minister of War, Mr. CARDWELL, we have known for some time, has been convinced of the necessity of change and of releasing the War Office from the domination of the Horse Guards. Moreover, public opinion in England, since the accession of the present ministry, has really demanded a reform, and perhaps the war on the continent has hastened the movements in that direction.

But we are not yet prepared to accept as positive heralding of a fact to be actually accomplished the statements of the *Observer*. The government organ may have put them out merely as a feeler. They are important, however, as indications of a movement sure to come before long, and which will radically affect the very foundations of society in England. It means that the offices of the army are not to be in the future, as in the past, the privilege of the aristocracy of birth or wealth. Competitive examinations and actual service and merit will be the only road to military rank and authority.

For years past the officers of the Army who have served in the West have striven to put a stop to the Indian disgrace, by breaking up the tribal organization. Strange to say, this measure, apparently so generous and friendly, found bitter opposition, and was ascribed to the bloodthirsty views which the trade of war fostered in men of the Army. To take the Indian from his hunting and stealing and make a civilized being of him was stigmatized as a deed of rapacity and oppression. The officers—such men as POPE, SHERIDAN, and SHERMAN—were unable to get a hearing until an Army officer mounted the President's chair. Then the Army policy came out under the soothing title of "the President's peace policy" for the Indians. How thoroughly circumstances alter cases we may see from the enthusiasm with which this policy was received. Its advocates are now so numerous among the Congressmen that the formation of an Indian republic as one of our territories meets with favor everywhere. Little do we care under what name or what auspices the measure is concluded. For the sake of the Indians, to whom a future such as no other race of savages ever had is so suddenly opened, and for the sake of the Army, which, if this experiment succeeds, will in time be relieved from its most difficult and disagreeable duty, we rejoice in the fact, however accomplished.

Our Indian policy is absolutely the oldest, and perhaps the only policy that can be called "traditional" belonging to our Government. It was natural for the settlers of the country two hundred and fifty years ago to treat the inhabitants of the land as its sovereigns; and the continuance of that policy has also been perfectly natural. But never did the formalities and customs used by civilized nations in their intercourse appear more absurd than when applied to pow-wowing with the Indians. Unfitted by character and habits of life to appreciate the ideas which in two centuries and a half have made so little impression upon them, it is doubtful whether they have not suffered much that would have been spared them if they had been treated as a dependent people, and forced to accept civilization.

Born without civil rights, the Indian as it is has been an alien in the land of his nativity—a man literally without a country. Treated as one of a sovereign people, he has really had no government at all, has wielded no command, and yielded no obedience. If the new Indian policy succeeds, it will not only give the Indian a country, but it may also give him a new lease of life. The Cherokees flourished under the influence of an organized government; and it may be that the entrance into political life, and the knowledge of being of the people and no longer men without a country, may do much for the dozen or more tribes of the Indian Territory.

THE Senate, February 8, confirmed the appointment of First Lieutenant John R. McGinness as captain of ordnance.







provisions for January, 1869; evidence of which will be a certificate to that effect from the Commissary-General of Subsistence.

By direction of the President, so much of Special Orders No. 300, paragraph 4, November 7, 1870, from this office, as discharged Captain A. W. Starr, Eighth Cavalry, to date November 15, 1870, is hereby amended to take effect December 1, 1870, to which date he performed service.

So much of Special Orders No. 255, September 26, 1870, from this office, as transferred to the "list of supernumeraries" Captain Elisha W. Tarlton, Third Cavalry, is hereby so amended as to direct him to proceed to his home and await orders.

#### Wednesday, February 1.

The telegraphic order of the 31st ultimo, from this office, directing Colonel Reynolds, commanding Department of Texas, to repair without delay to this city, bringing with him certain records, is hereby confirmed.

The following named officers are hereby relieved from their present duties, and will report in person without delay to the Chief Signal Officer of the Army for assignment to duty: First Lieutenant O. M. Mitchell, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant Robert Craig, Fourth Artillery; Second Lieutenant C. C. Wolcott, Third Artillery.

By direction of the President, so much of Special Orders No. 106, May 7, 1870, from this office, as announces the retirement of First Lieutenant E. B. Knox, unassigned, is hereby so amended as to place his name on the list of retired officers, with the full rank of first lieutenant mounted, from above date, in accordance with section 32, act of Congress approved July 28, 1866.

First Lieutenant Alexander Grant, First Cavalry, will proceed without delay to St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri, and report in person to the superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service to accompany a detachment of recruits for his regiment to the Military Division of the Pacific. Upon completion of this duty he will join his proper station.

Captain Richard C. Parker, Twelfth Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty under the orders of the superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, and will proceed without delay to St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri, and report in person to the superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service to accompany a detachment of recruits for the First Cavalry to the Military Division of the Pacific. Upon completion of this duty he will join his proper station.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant J. D. C. Hoskins, Third Artillery, in Special Orders No. 177, August 13, 1870, from headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended two months.

The leave of absence granted Assistant Surgeon S. A. Storow, U. S. Army, in Special Orders No. 268, December 13, 1870, from headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended thirty days.

#### Thursday, February 2.

The telegraphic instructions of January 31, 1871, authorizing the superintendent General Recruiting Service at New York city to retain Captain Lynde Catlin, Eleventh Infantry, to conduct a detachment of recruits to his regiment, are hereby confirmed.

Lieutenant-Colonel Oubier Grover, Third Cavalry, will proceed without delay to join his regiment in the Department of California.

#### Friday, February 3.

The telegraphic order of the 2d instant, from this office, directing the superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, to order First Lieutenant James Collins, First Cavalry, to St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri, to accompany a detachment of recruits to his regiment, is hereby confirmed. Upon completion of this duty Lieutenant Collins will join his proper station.

The telegraphic order of the 2d instant, from this office, directing the superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, to order First Lieutenant T. E. Merritt, Twenty-fourth Infantry, to conduct a detachment of recruits for the Sixth Cavalry serving in the Department of Texas, upon its arrival in that city, under the command of First Lieutenant J. W. Chickering, Sixth Cavalry, is hereby confirmed. Lieutenant Chickering, after having turned over the detachment to Lieutenant Merritt, will return to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and await the departure of the next detachment of recruits destined for his regiment. Lieutenant Merritt will join his regiment after turning over the recruits to the proper officer.

So much of paragraph 4, Special Orders No. 280, December 27, 1870, from headquarters Department of the South, as directs First Lieutenant Clayton Hale, Sixteenth Infantry, to report to the superintendent General Recruiting Service at St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri, is hereby amended so as to direct him to report to that officer at Newport Barracks, Kentucky.

Leave of absence for six months is hereby granted Second Lieutenant J. W. Bean, Fifteenth Infantry.

The extension of leave of absence granted Lieutenant-Colonel N. H. Davis, assistant inspector-general, in Special Orders No. 19, January 14, 1871, from this office, is hereby further extended two months.

The following named superintendents, recently appointed, will, upon the receipt of this order, repair to and assume charge of the national cemeteries set opposite their names: Rufus C. Taylor, national cemetery at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee; Henry Smith, national cemetery at Fayetteville, Arkansas. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

#### Saturday, February 4.

Hospital Steward Lucius G. Currier, U. S. Army, now serving at Fort Davis, Texas, will be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Hospital Steward Carl E. Borgquist, U. S. Army, now serving at Fort Sanders, Wyoming Territory, will be discharged the service of the United States, to date February 15, 1871, upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

As soon as the recruits ordered by paragraph 3, Special Orders No. 36, January 25, 1871, from this office, to be sent to the Eleventh Infantry, in the Department of Texas, have been forwarded, the superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, will prepare a detachment of one hundred recruits and forward it, under proper charge, to Omaha, Nebraska, where it will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Ninth Infantry.

Captain James W. Powell, Jr., Sixth Infantry, having relinquished the unexpired portion of the extension of leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 323, November 21, 1870, from this office, will proceed without delay to New York city and report in person to the superintendent General Recruiting Service, to accompany the first detachment of recruits forwarded to the Department of the Missouri, and join his proper station.

The leave of absence granted Assistant Surgeon Thomas McMillin in Special Orders No. 181, December 8, 1870, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended thirty days.

Leave of absence for sixty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant A. H. Goodloe, Twenty-second Infantry. Second Lieutenant James H. Rice, Seventeenth Infantry, will, upon the receipt of this order, proceed to join his regiment without delay.

#### Monday, February 6.

By direction of the President, so much of General Orders No. 126, December 15, 1870, from this office, as transfers and assigns First Lieutenant Alexander W. Hoffman, Tenth Infantry, to the Second Artillery, is hereby revoked.

By direction of the President, and under the provisions of section 17 of the act of Congress approved July 15, 1870, First Lieutenant H. Walworth Smith, Seventh Cavalry, is hereby dropped from the rolls of the Army, to date January 9, 1871, as a deserter.

The telegraphic instructions of the 4th instant to the general commanding Department of the Platte to order Captain Thomas C. Sullivan, commissary of subsistence, to return to and resume his duties at Sioux City, Iowa, are hereby confirmed.

First Lieutenant Frederick M. Lynde, First Infantry, will proceed without delay to join his regiment in the Department of the Lakes.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant A. D. Schenck, Second Artillery, in Special Orders No. 197, December 31, 1870, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended sixty days.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant J. E. Quentip, Fourteenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 247, December 29, 1870, from headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended sixty days.

#### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Companies E, G, and I, Twenty-first Infantry, left Camp Grant, Arizona, Ter. for "Infantry Camp," Final Mountains, Arizona, November 22, 1870.

No change in headquarters of companies of cavalry or artillery reported since January 31.

MAJOR W. H. Lewis, Seventh Infantry, has been appointed a special inspector of the Department of Dakota for the purpose of inspecting the posts in the District of Montana and the Middle District, as follows: Being relieved from duty at Fort Benton, he will, as soon as the weather permits, proceed to make a detailed inspection of the posts of Forts Benton, Shaw, Camp Baker, Fort Ellis, and the Pay Department at Helena, M. T., completing these inspections in time to avail himself of transportation by one of the first boats on the Missouri river from Fort Benton the ensuing spring, by which he will proceed to Fort Buford, D. T., and make a similar inspection of that post, upon the completion of which he will proceed to and make like inspections of Forts Stevenson, Rice, Sully, and Randall, D. T., and of the depot at Sioux City, Iowa.

The following order has been issued by General Upton, commanding in the temporary absence of Superintendent Pitcher, who hastened back to his post on receiving the news of the fire at West Point:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT, February 6, 1871.

#### Special Orders No. 14.

First—It is with pleasure that the acting superintendent announces to the corps of cadets his own and the general commendation elicited by their action at the fire yesterday morning. No higher proof of their discipline could have been given. In the perfect order that prevailed during the whole fire, in the cheerful obedience to every order, in endurance under extreme cold, in the very energy, determination, and bravery with which they fought the flames for three hours, resulting in averting a great disaster to the Academy, the cadets have given a pledge of gallant devotion to duty which the Government cannot fail to appreciate. As a slight recognition of the soldierly conduct of the corps, the acting superintendent directs that all cadets in arrest, except those awaiting the sentence of a court martial, be released, and also that all confinements and punishments, except those mentioned in Special Orders No. 3 of January 10, 1871, from this office, and those resulting from a court martial, be cancelled down to date.

Second—The acting superintendent desires also to express his appreciation of the zealous co-operation and efficient services rendered by the steam fire engine company and the enlisted men of the engineers, artillery and cavalry detachments. In consideration of their services all men confined in the guard house, not under or awaiting sentence by court martial, will be released from confinement and restored to duty.

By command of Lieutenant-Colonel Upton.

EDWARD C. BOYNTON, Brevet Major and Adjutant.

#### LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

#### ARMY.

##### FEBRUARY 3.

Chandler, E. A., Captain. Herbert, Captain.  
Emery, R., Captain. Huntington, J. E., Captain.  
Fitzharris, M., Captain. Pelletier, A., Captain.

##### FEBRUARY 7.

Cottle, T. C., Captain. Sheldon, A. W., Colonel.  
Hall, James W., Colonel. Sherman, D., Captain.  
Herdorn, E. W., Major. Walker, G. T., Captain.  
McDaniels, D., Colonel. West, H. N., Captain—2.  
Rhind, A., Captain. White, C. W., Captain.

## ARMY PERSONAL.

LEAVE of absence for ten days was granted Major M. A. Reno, Seventh Cavalry, February 3, 1871.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted First Lieutenant D. H. Kinzie, Fifth Artillery, January 30.

LEAVE of absence for ten days was granted First Lieutenant T. W. Custer, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, February 1, 1871.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was granted Second Lieutenant P. H. Ray, Eighth Infantry, February 1.

THE order detailing First Lieutenant Asa Bird Gardner, First Artillery, on special duty to assist the judge-advocate of the Department of the East, has been rescinded.

HOSPITAL Steward E. B. Fenn, U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty at post of Raleigh, N. C., and will proceed without delay to Fort Washington, Md., and report to the commanding officer and post surgeon for duty.

MAJOR Thomas F. Barr, judge-advocate U. S. Army, was ordered January 25 to proceed to Fort Columbus, New York harbor, and make an inspection of the prisoners confined in Castle William, under the special instructions he has received from the commander Department of the East.

FIRST Lieutenant William S. McCaskoy, Twentieth Infantry, having been appointed regimental quartermaster of that regiment, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, will be relieved from duty at Fort Totten, D. T., March 31 next, and proceed to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, for duty.

To enable First Lieutenant S. C. Kellogg, Fifth Cavalry, to comply with Special Orders, headquarters of the Army, he is relieved from duty as acting judge-advocate of the Department of the Lakes, and Second Lieutenant Edward Davis, Third Artillery, aide-de-camp, is announced as acting judge-advocate of this department.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Benton, M. T., February 10, 1871. Detail for the court: Major W. H. Lewis, Seventh Infantry; Surgeon P. C. Davis, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Wm. Quinton, Seventh Infantry; Second Lieutenant M. C. Sanbourne, Seventh Infantry; Second Lieutenant L. F. Bennett, Seventh Infantry. Second Lieutenant A. H. Jackson, Seventh Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abernethy, D. T., January 31. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. Hunt, Twentieth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon W. D. Wolverton, U. S. A.; Captain William Stanley, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant George Mitchell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant J. A. Yeekley, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant W. R. Maize, Twentieth Infantry, judge-advocate.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters Department of the East for the week ending February 7: Captain T. H. Norton, U. S. Army; Captain J. S. Conrad, Second Infantry; Captain C. A. Hartwell, Eighth Infantry; Major Henry Douglas, Eleventh Infantry; First Lieutenant J. H. Wheelan, Second Cavalry; Captain E. V. Sumner, First Cavalry; Captain L. H. Robinson, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant H. C. Dodge, Second Artillery.

COLONEL De Lancey Floyd-Jones, Third Infantry, having reported at the headquarters Department of Missouri, was ordered January 30 to proceed without delay to Fort Dodge, Kansas, where he will assume command of his regiment and the post of Fort Dodge. Upon being relieved by Colonel Floyd-Jones, Lieutenant-Colonel John R. Brooke, Third Infantry, will proceed to Fort Lyon, C. T., and assume command of that post. Major E. I. Dodge, Third Infantry, upon being relieved by Lieutenant-Colonel Brooke, will proceed to Fort Larned, Kansas, and assume command of that post.

A GENERAL Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Craig, N. M., February 23. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas C. Devin, Eighth U. S. Cavalry; Captain Chamber's McKibbin, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Captain Almond B. Wells, Eighth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant John W. Eckles, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Martin P. Buffum, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Richard A. Williams, Eighth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Second Lieutenant James B. Mackall, Corps of Engineers. First Lieutenant William J. Sattle, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Monroe, Virginia, January 30. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Roberts, Fourth Artillery; Captain Richard Lodor, Fourth Artillery; Captain S. S. Elder, First Artillery; First Lieutenant G. F. Barstow, Third Artillery; First Lieutenant W. E. Van Reed, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant J. W. MacMurray, First Artillery; First Lieutenant M. C. Grier, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant W. F. Stewart, Fourth Artillery; Second Lieutenant J. M. Califf, Third Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. P. Van Ness, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant F. V. Greene, Fourth Artillery. Captain S. N. Benjamin, Second Artillery, judge-advocate.

CAPTAIN Calvin D. Mohaffey, U. S. A., died on Saturday morning, 28th ult., at Florence, New Jersey, where he was undergoing treatment at a water cure establishment. Captain Mohaffey was born in Marietta, and was in the 43d year of his age. In 1861, he was appointed a lieutenant in the First Infantry. He served first on the staff of General Andrew Porter, who was then the provost-marshal of Washington, and during the war, sometimes with his company in the field and sometimes on staff duty. After the war he became a General Post



terfield's staff in New York city, and afterwards joined his company. His last service was at Fort Gratiot, Michigan. On account of ill health he was recently placed on the retired list.

### CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE.

THE following tables, accompanying "General Orders No. 4," published last week, show the price of clothing and equipage, and the allowances for clothing, on and after April 1, 1871, as established by that order.

#### PRICES OF CLOTHING.

Uniform hat.....	\$1 00
" " feather.....	7
" " cord and tassels.....	7
" " eagle.....	8
" " shell and flame.....	2
" " crossed sabres.....	1
" " crossed cannons.....	1
" " bugle.....	1
" " letter.....	1
" " number.....	1
Cap (light artillery).....	1 50
" " tulip.....	5
" " cord and tassels.....	44
" " plate.....	3
" " rings, pairs of.....	44
" " hair plume.....	44
Forage cap.....	11
Uniform coat, musicians.....	5 80
" " privates.....	5 50
" " jacket, musicians.....	4 80
" " privates.....	4 11
Chevrons, pairs, non-commissioned staff.....	38
" " first sergeants.....	18
" " sergeants.....	12
" " corporals.....	8
Caduceus.....	43
Shoulder scales, pairs, non-commissioned staff.....	44
" " privates.....	40
Trowsers, sergeants.....	2 32
" " corporals.....	2 17
" " privates.....	2 10
Sash.....	1 16
Flannel sack coat (unlined).....	1 77
" " (lined).....	2 13
shirt.....	1 00
Knit shirt.....	1 00
Canton flannel drawers.....	67
Knit drawers.....	21
Stockings.....	21
Boots, sewed.....	1 20
" " pegged.....	1 00
Boots, sewed.....	2 07
" " pegged.....	1 77
Groat coats.....	5 33
" " straps, pairs of.....	5
Blankets, woolen.....	8 11
" " rubber.....	1 96
" " painted.....	1 18
Poncho, rubber.....	2 89
" " painted.....	1 33
Leather stocks.....	7
" " leggings.....	70
Linen leggings.....	44
Overalls.....	1 00
Stable frock.....	93
PRICES AT WHICH CAMP AND GARRISON EQUIPAGE WILL BE CHARGED IN CASES OF LOSS OR DAMAGE.	
Knapsack and straps.....	33
Haversack, unpainted.....	29
" " enamelled and painted.....	43
Canteens, complete.....	29
" " straps, leather.....	9
Bedstead, single.....	1 96
" " double.....	1 71
Mosquito bars.....	89
Axe.....	73
" " helve.....	9
" " sling.....	16
Hatchet.....	96
" " helve.....	9
" " sling.....	16
Spade.....	19
Shovel.....	59
Pickaxe.....	47
" " helve.....	7
Camp kettle.....	44
Mess pan.....	20
Iron pot.....	83
Garrison flag.....	43
" " halyards.....	1 33
Storm flag.....	15
Recruiting flag.....	4
" " halyards.....	13
Guidon.....	44
Camp color.....	79
Standard for mounted regiments.....	10 00
National color, artillery and infantry.....	27 50
Regimental color, artillery and infantry.....	34 45
Color belt and sling.....	1 57
Trumpet, with extra mouthpiece.....	1 45
Bugle, with extra mouthpiece.....	1 63
Cord and tassel for trumpet or bugle.....	1 45
Fife, "B" or "C".....	8
Drum, complete.....	8
" " head butter.....	8
" " snare.....	19
" " sling.....	18
" " sticks, pairs.....	11
" " carriage.....	23
" " cord.....	15
" " snares, sets.....	11
Wall tent.....	33 33
" " fly.....	12 89
" " poles, sets.....	80
" " pins.....	2
Wall tent, complete.....	47 33
Hospital tent.....	77 78
" " fly.....	26 07
" " poles, sets.....	1 71
" " pins.....	40
Hospital tent, complete.....	106 65
Common tent.....	17 11
" " poles, sets.....	51
" " pins.....	13
Common tent, complete.....	17 75
Shelter tent, complete.....	4 35
Tent pins, hospital, large.....	1
" " wall, large.....	1
" " common, small.....	1
Regimental book, order.....	1 51
" " letter.....	1 51
" " index.....	77
" " descriptive.....	2 11
" " general orders.....	1 56
Regimental books, set.....	7 56
Post book, morning report.....	40 40
" " guard report.....	75
" " order.....	45
" " letter.....	45
Post Books, set.....	2 05
Company book, clothing account.....	1 33
" " descriptive.....	71
" " order.....	55
" " morning report.....	1 00
Company books, set.....	8 89
Record book for target practice.....	83

#### CLOTHING ALLOWANCE—TABLE SPECIFYING THE MONEY ALLOWANCE FOR CLOTHING TO ENLISTED MEN OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE—TABLE SPECIFYING THE MONEY ALLOWANCE FOR CLOTHING TO ENLISTED MEN OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.																	
ARTICLE.	FIRST SERGEANT.					SERGEANT.			CORPORAL.			MUSICIANS.			ARTIFICERS AND PRIVATES.		
	Cavalry.	Light Artillery.	Artillery and Infantry.	Engineers.	Cavalry.	Light Artillery.	Artillery and Infantry.	Engineers.	Cavalry.	Light Artillery.	Artillery and Infantry.	Engineers.	Cavalry.	Light Artillery.	Artillery and Infantry.	Engineers.	
Cap, light artillery, with trimmings complete....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Plume, red horse hair.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Hat, with trimmings complete.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Forage cap.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Cover for forage cap.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Coat or jacket.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Trowsers.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Shirts.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Drawers.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Boots, pairs of.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Stockings, pairs of.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Leather stock.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Great coat and straps.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Stable frock (for mounted men).....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Fatigue overalls (for engineers and ordnance)....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Blanket, woolen.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Blanket, water-proof (for foot troops).....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Ponchoes, water-proof (for mounted troops).....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Flannel sack coats.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
* Mounted men may receive one pair of boots and two pairs of boots instead of four pairs of boots.																	
For month first year.....	3.89	4.01	4.18	4.34	3.89	4.01	4.18	4.34	3.89	4.01	4.18	4.34	3.89	4.01	4.18	4.34	
For month second year.....	3.32	3.44	3.61	3.77	3.32	3.44	3.61	3.77	3.32	3.44	3.61	3.77	3.32	3.44	3.61	3.77	
For month third year.....	2.75	2.87	3.04	3.20	2.75	2.87	3.04	3.20	2.75	2.87	3.04	3.20	2.75	2.87	3.04	3.20	
For month fourth year.....	2.18	2.30	2.47	2.63	2.18	2.30	2.47	2.63	2.18	2.30	2.47	2.63	2.18	2.30	2.47	2.63	
For month fifth year.....	1.61	1.73	1.90	2.06	1.61	1.73	1.90	2.06	1.61	1.73	1.90	2.06	1.61	1.73	1.90	2.06	
Total first year.....	16.68	17.06	17.62	18.18	16.68	17.06	17.62	18.18	16.68	17.06	17.62	18.18	16.68	17.06	17.62	18.18	
Total second year.....	13.50	13.88	14.44	15.00	13.50	13.88	14.44	15.00	13.50	13.88	14.44	15.00	13.50	13.88	14.44	15.00	
Total third year.....	10.32	10.70	11.26	11.82	10.32	10.70	11.26	11.82	10.32	10.70	11.26	11.82	10.32	10.70	11.26	11.82	
Total fourth year.....	7.14	7.52	8.08	8.64	7.14	7.52	8.08	8.64	7.14	7.52	8.08	8.64	7.14	7.52	8.08	8.64	
Total fifth year.....	3.96	4.34	4.90	5.46	3.96	4.34	4.90	5.46	3.96	4.34	4.90	5.46	3.96	4.34	4.90	5.46	
Total for five years.....	176.52	181.68	188.22	195.10	176.52	181.68	188.22	195.10	176.52	181.68	188.22	195.10	176.52	181.68	188.22	195.10	
TO THE SOLDIER'S WAGE LIST.																	
To his pay add his money allowance for clothing for the period for which he is mustered on the rolls: from this sum take the authorized stoppages and the money value of clothing drawn; the remainder will be the amount due the soldier.																	
Example.																	
Money allowance for clothing for private of Artillery or Infantry for two months.....	\$33.00																
Money allowance for clothing for private of Artillery or Infantry for one month.....	7.50																
30.50																	



Stephen B. Luce, was stationed at Cadix. The *Guerriere's* station is, for the present, to be from Lisbon to Barcelona. The squadron will rendezvous in Lisbon, if peace is finally declared, early in the spring.

### THE WRECK OF THE SAGINAW.

PACIFIC FLEET, U. S. FLAG SHIP PENNSACOLA,  
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., January 9, 1870.

Hon. Geo. M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose and forward herewith a copy of a report received from Commander Montgomery Sicard, in reference to the heroic conduct of the late Lieutenant J. G. Talbot.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. WINSLOW, Rear-Admiral,  
Commanding Pacific Fleet.

OCEAN ISLAND, PACIFIC OCEAN, November 16, 1870.  
Rear-Admiral John A. Winslow, Commanding Pacific Fleet.

SIR: I have the honor to recommend that the attention of the Department be particularly called to the fine conduct of Lieutenant J. G. Talbot.

The day after the wreck of the *Saginaw*, Lieutenant Talbot came to me and volunteered to take one of the ship's boats to Honolulu in order to bring back relief for the officers and crew of the vessel. He has been most zealous and spirited through this whole affair and of the greatest assistance to me.

His boat (by the usual route at this season) will probably have to sail and pull some fifteen hundred miles, and I think some recognition of his handsome conduct would be proper.

The names of the crew are as follows:

Lieutenant J. G. Talbot.

Coxswain William Halford.

Quartermaster Peter Francis.

Seaman John Andrews.

Seaman James Muir.

The last two are contractors' men, and were specially enlisted by me from Mr. Townsend's party for one month. They were men of such fine qualities and endurance that I thought it proper to let them go.

This enlistment was made with the express understanding between myself and them that it did not interfere with their previous contract with Mr. Townsend.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MONTGOMERY SICARD,  
Lieutenant-Commander, commanding.

### NAVY GAZETTE.

#### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

##### ORDERED.

FEBRUARY 1.—Boatswain Charles Miller, to the receiving ship at Philadelphia.

Carpenter Joseph G. Thomas, to the steamer *Michigan* on the 15th inst.

FEBRUARY 3.—Master Edwin S. Jacob, to the Hydrographic Office.

Chief Engineer Thomas A. Shock, to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

##### DETACHED.

FEBRUARY 2.—Lieutenant-Commander John H. Rowland, from the temporary command of the *Tuscarora*, and ordered to resume his duties on board the *Dictator*, at Key West, Fla.

Lieutenant-Commanders F. W. Dickens and B. H. McCallie, Lieutenants Franklin Hanford and Henry G. Macy, Surgeon Michael Bradley, Passed Assistant Paymaster Frank H. Arms, Chief Engineer James W. Whittaker, First Assistant Engineer Wm. S. Neal, and Second Assistant Engineer R. D. Taylor, from the *Tuscarora*, and placed on waiting orders.

FEBRUARY 3.—Masters W. T. Burwell, John M. Taft, and John C. Rich, from the *Monocacy*, and placed on waiting orders.

FEBRUARY 4.—Commander Charles S. Norton, from duty at New Orleans, and placed on waiting orders.

#### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending February 4, 1871:

Frederick Dwyer, marine, about January 11, near the Navy-yard, Pensacola.

James Rion, marine, about January 11, near the Navy-yard, Pensacola.

The *Troy Press*, January 30, says: "Our readers who have noticed the gun-carriages, limbers, and other warlike articles that have been passing through our streets for the past three months have no doubt speculated as to their destination, etc. As to their ultimate destination, we cannot give information; but we learn that they are forwarded to Colonel Crispin, United States agent in New York, who probably has disposed of them to some foreign belligerent power. Something over \$20,000,000 worth of property has been sent to New York from the different arsenals in the country, and Watervliet arsenal has contributed a large portion of it. The following is a correct list of the shipments made from West Troy during the past three months, as given by the *Democrat*:"

100,000 rifle muskets and affits.....	\$1,000,000
35 batteries complete.....	245,000
11,000 revolvers and affits.....	110,000
4,000,000 small-arm cartridges.....	60,000
15,000 rounds fixed ammunition.....	45,000
1,000,000 percussion caps.....	3,000
30,000 pounds of powder.....	3,000
10,000 saddle blankets.....	30,000
400 curry-combs.....	1,200
3,000 nose-bags.....	4,500
5,000 waist-belts and plates.....	1,750
6,000 pistol-holsters.....	5,400
Miscellaneous stores valued at.....	10,000
Total.....	\$1,518,850

FIRST Lieutenant J. W. Chickering, Sixth Cavalry, has been relieved from duty as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### FORT SHAW, M. T.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Fort Shaw (if so it can be designated), not unlike other frontier posts, is built upon a level plain similar to Fort Kearny (old). The quarters are built of adobe brick or sun-dried mud, generally brought to perfection through the mechanism of unruly soldiers. The walls are about eighteen inches in thickness, and in summer time are fully as warm as a city-built brick house. Were they whitewashed outside, to a stranger approaching the deception would be complete in its close resemblance to a painted cottage.

Colonel John Gibbon, or, as the rebels used to say, Here comes "General John Give-it-to-em," commands the post, regiment, and district of Montana. Company H, the quartermaster's company, and Company B quarters are on the north flank of the post; Company C, the band quarters, and guard-house (a terror to evil-doers), are on the east flank of the post; the officers' quarters, with Colonel Gibbon's, the most prominent, in the centre, are on the south flank of the post; the hospital, post, regimental district headquarters, and the quarters of Company K, are on the west flank of the post; while in the centre stands towering and threateningly the crooked flag-staff, which during the presence of every little high wind makes every one quake with fear. The north flank of the post stands on or near the bank of the "Sun" river—not "Dunn," as erroneously stated. It is a beautiful but rapid little stream, and empties into the tributaries of the Missouri, seventeen miles east of here. The west flank is strongly supported by huge piles of wood, a saw-mill, and the last remains of "Hunki Dori," a decayed remnant of a once flourishing and prosperous theatrical troupe, which places are all inhabited by skunks; a favorite little bird of which the soldiers, at least, are not fond. On the east side of the post, on the bank of the Sun river, stand the stables and corral, with blacksmith shop attached. A little to the south and east of the guard-house stands the centre of attraction to the post, the sutler's shop.

The companies have each a library of its own, in addition to a post and regimental library supported by the post and regimental fund. A day school for the children of the post is under good progress and headway, and, under the able management of Brother E. M. Tracy, bids fair to give the little ones a start in the world that will not be easily eradicated from their memories.

There is also a night school for such soldiers as desire to attend, conducted by Brother Tracy, of Company C. Divine service is held weekly under the superintendence of our post surgeon, assisted by the ladies of the post, of whom there are quite a sprinkling. For amusement we have a glorious dance every Saturday from eleven A. M. until twelve noon.

D. B.  
COMPANY H, SEVENTH INFANTRY, FORT SHAW, M. T.

### LE SABRE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have read with extreme interest your articles on Volunteer Cavalry, and consider them so well suited to the times that I cannot refrain from testifying approbation, thinking myself qualified to judge, having witnessed the so-called "famous" charge at Balclava in '54 and a few small affairs during the Indian meeting of '57. Being pretty well acquainted also with all arms of the service, I regard the sabre as the beau ideal of the weapon of a soldier, especially in a *mêlée*.

I well remember the consternation of both Russians and East Indians at the "thrust" which they could not face, "cutting" being their "forte."

The only drawbacks to the use of the sabre are, that men are not taught sufficiently to understand its value, so as to feel more confidence in it, as it takes more time and practice to master than any other weapon.

The East Indian Irregular Cavalry constantly practice, and to stimulate them "prizes" are the order of the day. It is surprising to see men of such small "calibre" wield the weighty weapon which they use with so much dexterity; from cutting a lemon on the naked hand, to decapitating an animal, there seems to be nothing they would stick at, and the wounds they can inflict I cannot describe.

There is another difficulty to be got over. It is totally impossible to keep the sword sharp in the present steel scabbard, and a wooden one would not last long with heavy men. The weapon should on all occasions be issued sharp, as there is scarce one man in a hundred who knows how to grind one, if he had the means, and could not as your author justly says, on account of its hardness.

In conclusion, I would suggest that the grinding commences three inches from the "fork" of the blade; any thing lower would only tend to weaken the weapon, without gaining any advantage.

BASHI BAZOUK.

JACKSON, MISS., February 1, 1871.

### WHAT IS TEMPERANCE?

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have at various times been surprised in reading the many able arguments adduced by his opponents as reasons why we should banish from his field of usefulness that most successful of all the recruiting agents that the Army ever had—I mean the old veteran, General John Barleycorn. This, I think, is offering great injustice to Old B. Now I do not wish to be understood as throwing cold water on the ambitious aspirations of Lance Corporal Temperance to succeed Old B., in suggesting the propriety of his showing a larger list of recruits than I believe him able to do now; before he asks for the "muster-ing out" of our "mutual friend."

Seriously speaking, Mr. Editor, I know of no reason why we of the Army of the United States should prove

an exception to the general rule—why we should not be allowed, if we wish it, our beer or whiskey, as is the case in nearly all of the armies of other countries. I believe that if we were there would be far less drunkenness, apparent, than there is at present, advocates of temperance to the contrary notwithstanding. It is a fact, I think, that will not be disputed, that two-thirds of the men composing the present Army owe their introduction to the same to the misfortunes attendant on drinking. They have acquired a taste for strong stimulants, and will gratify it whenever opportunity may offer. As "stolen sweets are sweetest," remove the restrictions placed on liquor, give the men to understand that they, as they please, may have two or three drinks per day, and, my word for it, you will do more for sobriety than all the temperance lodges that could be established. I speak by the card and know this to be the case. I have known Good Templar lodges to be opened, do well for a time, and then break up, the ending leaving the members greater worshippers at the "shrine of Bacchus" than ever. Men strictly temperate as a class do not enter, or if in the Army, will not stay, knowing as they do that they can, especially in the time of peace, do much better socially as well as financially than by following the "fife and drum" at sixteen dollars per month.

I once heard a temperate officer—a veteran and successful Indian fighter and colonel of one of the old infantry regiments—say that a sober man as a soldier was not worth half a room, for when wanted for rough work or hard fighting he was not to be had, being either on the sick report or on extra duty. I believed the colonel then, and I do now. Temperance is a beautiful and highly commendable virtue to practice if not done in that spasmodic manner so characteristic of the Army.

I think, as it is scarcely possible to have one wholly devoted to temperance, that the better plan would be to have a temperate Army, and this can be very easily accomplished by removing the restrictions and allowing the men, those who wish it, so much liquor or beer per day, as is done in the English service, for instance.

"Our Fritz" does not, I think, find that the indulgence has any demoralizing effect on his boys; neither would "our uncle"—at least that is the impression of CAPTAIN MURPHY MAGUIRE.

### MILITARY ORDER.

At a stated meeting of the Commandery of the State of Massachusetts, M. O., L. L., U. S., held at the Parker House, Boston, on Wednesday evening, February 1, the following were elected companions of the first class of the order: Brevet Brigadier-General Charles F. Wolcott, Colonel John W. Hudson.

The following report of a committee to draft resolutions relative to the decease of Companion Major Charles W. Dobney, Jr., late United States Volunteers, was adopted:

Companion Major Charles W. Dobney, Jr., late Forty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, infantry, died at Malvern, England, December 22, 1870.

Whereas, It hath pleased our Father in heaven to remove from our earthly fellowship Companion Charles W. Dobney, Jr., lately major of the Forty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers infantry; therefore, as the sense of this Commandery, be it

Resolved, That in the death of our lamented companion there is a loss to this order of a loved and honored member; to a sacred family circle, of a faithful husband and fond father; to the poor and needy, of an ever-helpful friend; to the community, of an upright and reliable citizen; and to the world, of an honest man.

Resolved, That while we tender to the bereaved ones of his immediate home circle our unfeigned sympathy in their sorrow, which is also ours, we thank God, with and for them, that the record of him we together mourn was so fair as both citizen and soldier, and that he leaves to his loved ones so rich a legacy in precious memories of his self-forgetful patriotism and unflinching bravery, his kindness of heart, and his true nobleness of soul, so much to be prized as an example and cherished as an inspiration.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of the Commandery, and a copy of the same be transmitted to the family of the deceased and be published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

A STATED meeting of the Commandery of the State of New York, M. O., L. L., U. S., was held at Delmonico's, corner of Fifth avenue and Fourteenth street, on Wednesday evening, February 1. The following were elected members of the first class: First Lieutenant Joseph S. A. Baker, Captain Albert C. Hendrick, Captain Leonard A. Dickinson, Brevet Major Philip Schuyler. At a stated meeting of the Commandery, held January 4, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That a committee of five, of which the Senior Vice-Commander, commanding, shall be chairman, be appointed, to take into consideration the propriety of devising means for establishing a permanent fund, and to designate the uses to which said fund shall be applied."

SECRETARY Delano has ordered, with the approval of the President, that no person claiming to act as attorney on behalf of any Indian tribe, or any member or members thereof, will be recognized as such by the Interior Department or Indian Office unless said person is possessed of a duly executed power of attorney from the chiefs of the tribe or nation, acknowledged before the agent of the United States for such tribe or nation, the agent, before taking such acknowledgment, to be satisfied by personal investigation that such power was fairly and duly obtained, and he shall fully explain the contents and purports thereof to the party acknowledging the execution of the same. This order applies to all persons claiming to act as attorneys for Indians, whether by power heretofore given or otherwise.

THE President has approved the bill directing the Secretary of War to sell Bergen Heights Arsenal.



**QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, UNITED STATES ARMY.**

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 25, 1871.  
SEALED PROPOSALS, in triplicate, will be received at this office until 12 o'clock m. on SATURDAY, February 25, 1871, for BUILDING a BRICK or STONE WALL around the Cold Harbor, Va. National Cemetery.  
Forms for proposals and specifications furnished upon application to this office.  
HENRY C. HODGES,  
Major and Quartermaster U. S. Army.

**H. N. SQUIRE,**

No. 97 FULTON STREET, New York,  
Is the best place to buy reliable Watches, fine Diamonds, and choice Jewelry, and Sterling Silver Ware.  
DIAMONDS A SPECIALTY.

**UPWARDS OF FOUR THOUSAND YOUNG**

Ladies have been educated at LINDEN HALL, Latis, Lancaster County, Pa., since its foundation in 1794. The best references in every State and Territory in the Union can be given. During the present scholastic year, young ladies from Wyoming, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Oregon, New Jersey, Nevada, Mexico, Massachusetts, Maryland, Kentucky, Iowa, Illinois, District of Columbia, and Delaware have been in attendance.

**LONDON ORDNANCE WORKS,**  
BEAR LANE, SOUTHWARK ST., LONDON, S. E., ENGLAND.

**J. VAVASSEUR & CO.,**  
Manufacturers of Muzzle and Breech-Loading Cast-Steel Guns, of Wrought-Iron Carriages for Sea and Land Service, of all kinds of Projectiles, Fuses, and Ordnance Stores, of Electric and Percussion Torpedoes, and of Harvey's Sea Torpedoes.

**ARMY AND NAVY COMMERCIAL AGENCY.**

Nos. 320 and 322 BROADWAY, COR. PEARL STREET,  
P. O. BOX 3,047. NEW YORK, February 16, 1871.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the officers of the Army and Navy, that having been recently retired from active service, he has opened in this city a Commercial Agency, which will be conducted exclusively in the interest of the Military and Naval service. The object of this Agency is to furnish officers and their commands with every description of Goods, Wares, and Merchandise to be obtained in the markets of this city, and the proprietor hopes by the exercise of energy and good judgment to establish for officers of the service a prompt and reliable medium of supply.

Special attention will be given to the selection of Military and Naval Equipments, and entire satisfaction in this line will be guaranteed.

Further particulars in regard to the character and design of this enterprise will be contained in the business circulars of the Agency now being prepared for distribution, and to which the attention of all is respectfully invited.  
THOMAS H. NORTON,  
late Captain Eleventh U. S. Infantry.

**A SECOND LIEUTENANT OF INFANTRY** stationed at one of the best posts in the Department of Dakota, wishes to effect a transfer. Address CEBAR, Office ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**TRANSFER—A CAPTAIN OF INFANTRY** (white regiment), well up on the list and stationed at a most desirable post, wishes to transfer into the artillery or cavalry. Address MIAMI, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**ANY FIRST LIEUTENANT OF CAVALRY**, wishing to exchange to Infantry, will please address A, Lock Box 16, Nashville, Tenn.

**MAJOR OF CAVALRY WISHES TO EXCHANGE** into Infantry or Staff. Infantry preferred. Address A. B., ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**A SECOND LIEUTENANT OF INFANTRY** serving at a pleasant post 12 mi. South, within eight hours' travel of New Orleans, wishes to transfer with a Second Lieutenant of Infantry or Cavalry, serving in Texas—Brownsville or Ringgold Barracks preferred. Address SEMINOLE, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**LIBERAL INDUCEMENTS OFFERED BY A** captain of colored infantry for transfer with captain of a white regiment in either arm of service. Address, stating terms, "T. G. S." care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

THE citizens of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, are indignant at the breaking up of the military post there, and the transfer of the recruits to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. The payments to soldiers quartered there amounted to some twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars per month, most of which was expended there. The Reading Times and Despatch says:

The removal of this post calls up some interesting reminiscences. It is one of the oldest, largest, and most beautiful military sites in the country. It was founded by Washington during the Revolution, and the Hessian prisoners captured at Trenton were put to work on the first buildings. It was not until the war of 1812 with Great Britain that it became a post of great military importance, and at one time or other since then the most distinguished officers in the United States Army have been in command. The lamented Ringgold was first stationed here, and he was succeeded by Sumner, and he in turn by Washington, the commander of the Fourth Artillery, who was lost with five hundred men of his command on the ship San Francisco in the year 1854. May, St. George Cooke, Barry, "Stonewall" Jackson, "Jeb" Stuart, Ewell, Fitz Hugh Lee, and other noted Union and rebel chieftains got their first "snooring" here. During the late rebellion the garrison, with the exception of a single building, was burned down in the siege of Carlisle, in July, 1863, by the rebels under Fitz Hugh Lee. The building saved was one occupied by the late Major Sanno, a soldier of the war of 1812, and who for very many years had been sutler at the post. He was a great favorite with all the officers and privates who had ever been there, and when the order was given by Lee to burn the barracks, there was an accompanying one that "old Pap Sanno's house" should be saved, and both orders were carried into effect strictly. The Government at once rebuilt the barracks on a grander and more extensive scale, and several important alterations and improvements were made, making it, if possible, a more beautiful and attractive spot than it had previously been.

We join heartily with the citizens of Carlisle in the hope that the War Department may reconsider its determination, and that Carlisle Barracks may be restored to its pristine glory and beauty.

**U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.**

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1871.

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The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in a Post Office money order, United States funds, or Quartermasters', Paymasters', or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH. Where none of these can be procured, send the money, but always in a registered letter. The registration fee has been reduced to fifteen cents, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. All postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

**THE ARMISTICE IN FRANCE.**

INSTEAD of peace, the armistice of January 28 has at first brought only anarchy. Two governments immediately appeared: one at Paris, favoring peace, free elections, and recognition of the undeniable failure of the war; the other at Bordeaux, without authority except such as it received from that at Paris, but daring to begin the new era of French history by oppression, absolutism, and anarchy. We gave last week the proclamation in which GAMBETTA ordered the exclusion from the Assembly of the imperialists, royalists, and all others who had held office since the fall of the first republic. That decree was abrogated by the Paris government, repeated by GAMBETTA, and only demolished at last by a decree removing all power from the Bordeaux branch of the government, and the sending of a delegation to that city. It is undeniable that TROCHU, as President of the Government of the National Defence, acting with his colleagues in the capital of the country, had the right to govern the action of a colleague delegated to special duties in the provinces. But the technical correctness of TROCHU's position or of GAMBETTA's position has little interest to us. It is the temper of the people that we must study.

It cannot be denied that that temper is just now a very threatening one. A mad orator who cried out for the guillotine and a new ROBESPIERRE was answered with shouts of approval. The members of the government are denounced for cowards. GAMBETTA's arbitrary action meets with approval in a great many quarters. Evidently eighty years have changed the French people but little. The days of the guillotine are, above all others in history, the era of horror. MACAULAY well said, in reference to the decree of the first republic that no man should be eligible to the Council of Five Hundred who had ever served in a government deliberative assembly before, that of all countries in the world France could least spare the few men she had of experience and coolness. The remark is almost as true to-day as it was then. But in the heavy disaster of the present day the French can invent no better means of release than a repetition of the outrages which the world has been condemning for eighty years. The walls of Paris are placarded with "Down with the Democrats!" for with all their talk and bluster about equality, it is not democracy that the French want, but radicalism of a kind more despotic than any autocracy, more debasing than any imperialism.

Before this paper reaches its readers the day fixed for the elections will have passed. It is to be hoped that action will give a quietus to passion, and that the French will prove themselves capable of republicanism. So far the wrangling of opposed parties and the assumptions of individuals which have marked the ten days of armistice which have passed, give little hope of the nation's preparedness for self-government. It may be that if a republican form of government were once established, it would go on as we have gone on after the wrangling that marked the beginning of our own government. That a republic will be the next government of France is, however, very doubtful.

Military operations have, of course, almost ceased;

but General CLINCHART, commanding in BOURBONNEX's place, has finally gone into Switzerland, where there are now 66,000 French soldiers. Previously 15,000 prisoners, 2 eagles, and 19 cannon and mitrailleurs were captured by the Germans. These operations were carried on in accordance with a clause of the armistice which provided that the line of demarcation in the east should be fixed when the position of the armies should be ascertained; practically an exclusion of the Jura region from the armistice, as the French were in full flight when the treaty was signed. From the seacoast comes the puzzling intelligence, February 5, that the Germans had occupied Abbeville on the river Somme and practically on the coast. The strength of the Paris garrison which surrendered is put at 180,000 men. The captures of guns were 1,500 cannon and 400 field pieces and mitrailleurs.

The Germans officially deny that they intend to demand any French possession in India, Asia, or beyond the Atlantic.

As if in answer to the many assertions of debility in the German resources, a new call for Landwehr has been issued. It takes the men above twenty-seven—the Landwehr proper—and it is said will furnish 300,000 men ready for movement into France. The strength of the German forces in the field, January 1, was said by a Berlin paper to be 610,000. Whether that is correct or not, it is certain that the Germans have made preparations to overrun France completely in case the terms of peace are rejected.

**ARMY AND NAVY LIFE INSURANCE.**

ONE of the leading life insurance companies, the St. Louis Mutual, has taken prompt action upon the suggestions in regard to Army and Navy life insurance, which had their origin in a letter from General JOHN GIBBON, originally published in the JOURNAL. General GIBBON's proposition was that the Government should establish a bureau of life insurance at Washington. This was followed by the suggestion that it was more feasible to arrange with some well-established insurance company to open an Army and Navy branch in connection with their business, giving the members of the two services the benefit of their "expectation of life," whatever experience might show that to be. It appears that Mr. HOUSTON, formerly an officer of the Navy, but now connected with the St. Louis Mutual Insurance Company, had already thought of this plan in connection with his company. He laid his project before us, and satisfied us at once that it was much better for the Army and Navy to accept it than to commit themselves to the uncertain prospect of the Government's adopting any plan of life insurance. We have waited, however, for the endorsement of others before committing ourselves fully to Mr. HOUSTON's plan, though we knew the high standing of the company he represents. Advising officers to insure in any particular company is much too serious a matter, in view of the possible consequences to them, to be lightly ventured upon. We need no longer hesitate, however, with the endorsement which Mr. HOUSTON's project and the company with which he is connected have received in the letters we publish elsewhere from Generals SHERMAN, MEADE, GIBBON, WRIGHT, INGALLS, DAVIS, Admiral PORTER, and Commanders WATERS, BRAINE, and HARMONY.

The inquiries in regard to the St. Louis company from General GIBBON are to the point, and we hoped to publish the answer to them this week. The sudden death of Mr. HOUSTON's brother in the shocking railroad accident on the Hudson river, while it emphasizes the importance of the subject about which we write, puts it out of our power to procure at present the facts we wish.

As to the policy of insuring one's life we have no question, and we are confident that life insurance will shortly be looked upon as a matter of course, quite as much as fire insurance, which had in the beginning to contend with similar prejudices and doubts. The value of life insurance merely as an investment is recognized by many shrewd merchants and capitalists, who have policies on their lives to the amount of fifty, one hundred, or two hundred thousand dollars. Every officer, as Admiral PORTER well says, should insure his life, no matter for how small an amount. In regard to the particular plan of insurance, we are satisfied that no one need hesi-



tate as to that offered by the St. Louis company, either as to the liberality of the terms or the security of the company offering them.

GENERAL SCHENCK is still in Washington, and it is said with some show of authority that the cause of his delay is the expected arrival of a messenger from the British authorities sent to treat on the *Alabama* subject. After the revelation of the moderation and strong desire for the preservation of a good feeling between the disputing governments, which our administration has shown, the British government can well afford to come forward in a way to make an end to the quarrel.

GENERAL JOSEPH J. REYNOLDS, colonel Third Cavalry, has been elected United States Senator from Texas. He is elected to succeed Hon. MORGAN C. HAMILTON in March next. Senator HAMILTON was elected some months ago by the same Legislature for the short and long terms. His opponents now declare that the election for the long term at that time was illegal, and is therefore void; hence the election of General REYNOLDS. Senator HAMILTON's friends hold the opposite opinion. This will give WESLEY MERRITT a colonelcy, besides securing one more Army man in Congress. Of the new senator the *Philadelphia Press* says:

General Joseph J. Reynolds, military commander of the Department of Texas, elected as a Republican from that State, will be a strong addition to the next Senate. He is now about fifty years old, and is a native of Kentucky. He removed to Indiana, and was appointed from that State to the Military Academy at West Point in 1839. He was breveted a second lieutenant in the Fourth Artillery on the 1st of July, 1843, and appointed to the Third Artillery in May, 1846. In March, 1847, he was made a first lieutenant. From August, 1846, to August, 1847, he acted as assistant professor of ethics at West Point. From 1847 to 1849, he was professor of natural and experimental philosophy, and an assistant professor down to February, 1857, when he resigned, and retired from the Army. When the war broke out he again entered the service, in which he served with distinction. He was appointed colonel of the Twenty-sixth Infantry on the 28th of July, 1866, and breveted major-general on the 2d of March, 1867. His rank in the volunteer service had been that of a major-general. After commanding the Department of the Northwest, General Reynolds succeeded General Canby as commander of the Department of Texas. In this latter position he has given universal satisfaction, both to the people of the State and Government. Under his administration peace and order have been restored to Texas, and its prosperity wonderfully increased. He is a man of much ability, and will be an accession to the Republican ranks in the Senate.

THE news that the crew of the *Saginaw* have been released from their island prison will be greeted with as much pleasure by the service as it has been by the people in general. Their rescue was accomplished first by the Hawaiian steamer *Kilauea*, which took them from Ocean Island to Honolulu, reaching the latter place January 14. The *Moses Taylor* brought them to San Francisco February 6. For some time previous to their rescue the daily ration had been reduced to one potato and two ounces of bread, with what seal and turtle meat they could obtain. We are glad to learn, however, that the party are all in good health and have recovered their strength.

#### CONGRESS.

FEBRUARY 1 saw every State in the Union represented in both Houses of Congress, for the first time in ten years. That consummation, so long desired, was accomplished by the confirmation and reception of Mr. Hill of Georgia in the Senate. The Senate Naval Committee is engaged in examining witnesses on the subject of assimilated naval rank. Several members of Congress have made a comparison of the naval pay corps in 1861 and 1871. In 1861 there were 64 pay officers to 549 line officers and 84 ships in commission; and in 1871 there are 132 pay officers to 659 line officers and 15 ships. The Secretary is opposed to the bill. A proposition to request the President to detail vessels for collecting and carrying supplies to the French, brought out an unexpected amount of reference to the attitude of the French government toward us during the rebellion. The measure was, however, passed on the appeal of Mr. Casserly and Mr. Sumner to the sympathy which must be felt toward the suffering, without regard to errors they may have fallen into. The third veto of President Grant was received. It relates to a bill granting relief to certain naval contractors, and the veto is upon the ground that the claim of the contractors was in consequence of a rise in the price of labor and materials after the contracts were made, which would not have occurred if due diligence had been used in the prosecution of the work.

The House has been busily engaged through its com-

mittees in looking into certain charges against General Butler and against the Indian Bureau. The former case is not yet decided, but the testimony in the latter is finished, and it is reported that Commissioner Parker is entirely exonerated. The Naval Committee is considering a joint resolution directing, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy in relation to the removal of Navy-yards from populous and growing cities, that a commission of line and engineer officers should be detailed to examine the Charlestown, Mass., and Kittery, Me., Navy-yards, and report: First, whether the Kittery yard is sufficiently commodious to accommodate the present work now done at the Charlestown yard and its probable increase; second, whether the site of the Charlestown yard is needed for commercial purposes; third, as to the amount likely to be realized by such sale; fourth, the probable expense of removing the machinery from Charlestown to Kittery, and the cost of such improvements at Kittery as may be needed. The report, if made, is to be transmitted to Congress in December next. The Committee are understood to be favorable to the projected removal.

The Judiciary Committee is hearing a claim from a former officer who has suffered at law for his action as an officer. After the famous raid of Morgan, in 1863, a number of Union men petitioned the authorities for relief on account of damages they had suffered. Mr. Lincoln issued an order of reprisal, directing cotton to be taken from known and active rebel sympathizers, and the proceeds to be applied to the reimbursement of those who had suffered from Morgan's troopers. Mr. Woodward was connected with the provost marshal's office and, under General Payne's direction, seized and sold a quantity of cotton, paying the proceeds over as directed. Since the close of the war, Mr. Woodward has been sued by those from whom the cotton was taken in the State courts, and judgment rendered against him. He now appeals to Congress for reimbursement. The committee did not formally decide on their action, but will probably report favorably. The same committee have directed Judge Mercur to report a bill authorizing the Secretary of War to settle the claims of the United States against Southern railroads, for the rolling stock, etc., sold to them at the close of military operations. There are several suits now pending, and the entire amount of claims is \$4,500,000. The Committee on Appropriations do not concur in the reductions which the Senate has made in the consular and diplomatic and Military Academy bills.

The text of the bill adding 20 per cent. (wrongly printed 26 per cent. in the JOURNAL last week) is as follows:

That the invalid pensions of all officers, soldiers, marines and sailors of the land and naval forces, and of the widows, children, and dependent relations of any of the same, granted or hereafter to be granted under the provisions of the general law, and also the same pensions granted by special law not in excess of the rate provided by the general law for similar cases, be, and the same are hereby, increased by the sum of twenty per centum thereof, to commence March 4, 1871; provided, that said increase shall cease and terminate at the expiration of five years from said last mentioned date.

Mr. Edmunds explained that the Pension Committee was constantly receiving thousands of applications for an increase; that the present amount of pension was believed by the committee to be inadequate; and that the bill had been reported with a view to treat all cases of pensioners of the Government equitably and equally.

In February, 1869, Elisha Crowell shipped a quantity of ordnance stores and other goods on board his brig from New Orleans, directed to Colonel S. Crispin, Centennial Stores, Brooklyn, N. Y. The freight was \$3,643 08, of which Crispin, in his official capacity, paid only \$3,156 08, alleging that the articles delivered were less than the number placed on board to be forwarded, and deducting the balance, \$487, to cover the loss. Crowell brought an action in the Marine Court to recover that balance, with interest. The cause was tried before Judge Alker, who gave judgment for the plaintiff for \$487 and interest, with costs. From that judgment an appeal was taken to the General Term, before Judges Alker, Gross, and Shea, who, in revising that judgment, say:

It is clear that no legal liability was assumed by the defendant individually, and in such cases the law does not permit individual liability to be inferred. A different doctrine prevails in regard to a person acting as a functionary of the Government, from one acting in a merely private agency. The rule of law in such cases may be thus stated: Agents of the Government are not liable for contracts made by them merely in their public capacity and within the scope of their public agency, although there be no other person against whom a legal remedy lies to enforce the contract. It has been laid down that "in any case where a man acts as an agent for the public he is not personally liable." Chief Justice Marshall, in stating the opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of *Sheffield v. Watson*, said: "It is too clear to be controverted, that, where a public agent acts in the line of his duty and by legal authority, his contracts made on the part of the Government are public and not personal."

REPRESENTATIVE Asper, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made a report February 7, in accordance with a resolution of the House authorizing an investigation into the circumstances of the expulsion of Cadets Baird, Fleckinger, and Barnes, and their subsequent enforced resignation from the Military Academy, etc.

The Committee go into a particular history of the causes which led to this result, and conclude by saying:

First, as to the officers, the Commissioners believe that the superintendent of the Academy and the commander of the Corps of Cadets failed to properly appreciate the gravity of the offence committed by the first class, and showed a disposition to avoid a proper investigation and punishment of the gross breach of discipline and violation of the regulations committed by the class. In their urgent recommendations for the immediate acceptance of the resignations of Cadets Baird and Fleckinger, they disregarded the following regulation of the Academy (see Regulations of the United States Military Academy, page 49 and page 166): "A cadet's resignation, if he be under age, must be accompanied by a written consent of his parent or guardian." Their conduct in advising these cadets to resign before any notice had been taken of, or investigation ordered into the outrage of which they had been the victims, is censurable. Their failure to take prompt action for the punishment of the offending class by arresting the guilty cadets and preferring charges against them for a court-martial, their official expression of a belief that the class were actuated by good motives to their unlawful action, and their continuance of the first class on duty as cadet officers to enforce the discipline of the Academy, amount, in the opinion of the Committee, to a verbal sanction of the riotous proceedings of the class, and an encouragement of the repetition of the offence.

The position thus assumed by the officers is subversive to the discipline of the Academy. It will, if maintained, place the government of the institution in the hands of the first class whenever they see fit to constitute themselves judges of the delinquencies of the members of the other classes, and will thus destroy all subordination and respect for law in the Corps of Cadets.

The conduct of the officers shows a lack of comprehension of the principles of military discipline surprising in officers of long and honorable service in the Army. The only thing that can be said in extenuation of their action is the fact that their efforts to maintain discipline heretofore have not been properly sustained by the authorities at Washington, and that sentences of courts-martial providing for the dismissal of cadets have almost universally been remitted.

Second, as to the case of the three cadets, Baird, Fleckinger, and Barnes, your Committee believe that they were guilty of serious offences against the regulations and discipline of the Academy; but from the circumstances, and the characters of the boys, they do not believe them destitute of either manliness or integrity. The two, Baird and Fleckinger, freely admitted their offences. It does not appear that Barnes had said anything on the subject of the transaction. Your Committee believe that the publicity given this affair and their enforced resignations will be a severe punishment, and they should be restored, to take effect in June next. This will cause them the loss of a year in their course, and will be a sufficient guarantee that they will not again offend in a like manner. The Committee would make no exception as to Barnes. His examination, under the circumstances, and deficiency as to the result thereof, should not be taken as irrevocable, and he should also be restored. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that Cadets Baird, Fleckinger, and Barnes be restored, to enter the Academy on the commencement of the next academic year.

Third, as to the offence of the first class, your Committee, in making a recommendation respecting this class, realize the importance of the subject. This class committed a grave offence. None graver can be committed by an officer or a soldier. Such action on the part of the cadets is subversive of all discipline in the Academy, and must tend to destroy its usefulness, and to cause a vicious influence to emanate therefrom. The offence is the more grave because these cadets have been under military discipline for nearly four years, and would soon graduate to enter the Army, to assist, so far as the Army may, to protect the lives and property of citizens of the country. These cadets could not have been ignorant of their duties, nor of the regulations under which they are governed. These they have made their study since they have been connected with the Academy. They themselves assist, as cadet officers, to enforce discipline in the Academy, and to bring to punishment those who violate the academic regulations. Furthermore, they could not have overlooked or forgotten the academic regulations. The facts in this case show clearly not only a combination and agreement, but that the class did such acts as were directly in violation of the rules of good order and subordination, so pointedly described in paragraph 124, the penalty for a violation of which is dismissal. If this offence is overlooked, how can good order, subordination, and discipline be kept up in the lower classes in the Academy?

Your Committee therefore believe that the cadets engaged in the disgraceful affair should be severely punished, and that any slight punishment will have the effect to aggravate the evil instead of proving a remedy. Four years ago a part of the first class took an innocent cadet into their own hands, branded "thief" upon him, and drummed him from the Point. The instigator of the offence was tried by court-martial, convicted, and sentenced to be dismissed; but on application to the authorities at Washington the sentence was remitted; and the recent outrage must be regarded as in part the fruit of the clemency then shown. The Committee are of the opinion that the members of the first class who were the instigators of and leaders in the affair of the 3d of January, should be at once dismissed from the Academy, and that all the other members of the class who participated in the affair should be tried by court-martial and subjected to punishment. They therefore recommend the adoption by the House of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recommend to the Secretary of War to restore Cadets Baird, Fleckinger, and Barnes to the Military Academy at West Point, to take effect at the beginning of the next academic year, and then permit them to proceed with the fourth class without further punishment for the offence heretofore committed by them.

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recommend that the Secretary of War convene a court of inquiry for the purpose of ascertaining what members of the first class were instigators and leaders in the affair of January 3 at the United States Military Academy, and that such leaders and instigators be at once dismissed from the Military Academy, and the remaining members of the class engaged in the affair be punished in the discretion of a general court-martial to be convened for their trial.



## VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—No. IV.

## THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

Entered according to the act of Congress in the year 1871 by W. C. & F. P. Osprey in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

## ORGANIZATION.

We have taken our lesson from the late war as to the arms of the cavalry of the future. Let us take also our profit from it in regard to organization.

In the United States any war that comes upon us, if of any magnitude, is sure to find us unprepared. It is the nature of our people that it should be so. They are impatient of all standing armies beyond a police force for the Indians. Our cavalry of the future will have to be hastily raised and put in service like our cavalry of the past, without many weeks for drill. Let us, in that possible future, follow the example of the South in the war, and organize our cavalry from men owning their own horses, whether in town or country.

The advantages of this system were remarkably illustrated during the War of the Rebellion. At its inception the Southern cavalry were far superior to that of the North. Born in a country where roads were bad, and wheeled vehicles, except heavy wagons and old lumbering stage-coaches, almost unknown, the Southerners as a rule made all their excursions for business or pleasure on horseback. As a consequence the poor riders were the exception, good riders the rule, among high and low.

In the North the rule was reversed. Buggies were and are the rule, riders the exception. Thus it will be seen that a nation of good riders started with a great advantage over those who, as a nation, considered the horse as a driving machine, to be hauled at with both hands.

The consequence was as might be expected. In the first year of the war the Southern cavalry displayed a marked superiority. On horseback they felt at home, while the green levies from the North were in a strange and uncomfortable position.

The Northern cavalry were well armed at that period, as far as revolvers went; the Southerners, many of them, carried only double-barrelled fowling pieces with buck-shot.

And yet that first year was fruitful of instances where whole squadrons of the Northern cavalry were taken prisoners. The second year of the war passed away, with the Northern cavalry still in the slough of despond, but slowly improving. In the third year they suddenly came out and beat their old masters. The Southerners had taught them how to fight on horses, and they had learned to ride in the best of all schools, the rough and ready school of active service.

In the last two years of the war the superiority of the Northern horse over that of the Confederates became almost as marked as that of the Confederates had been in the beginning. It is true that no batches of prisoners were taken without resistance, but that was because we had old soldiers to deal with, not green recruits. But in the years 1863 and 1864 the Confederate cavalry slowly waned as ours rose in lustre. Morgan was taken; so was Gilmore. Stewart was killed, the flower of Southern chivalry. To the old Southern cavalry leaders none were found to succeed worthy to emulate their deeds. Even Moseby's ubiquitous band became less and less formidable daily. Our cavalry saw the day when it was able to outmarch and outfight that terrible horse, before whose far-reaching raids the whole Army had once trembled.

One cause of this change was the falling off of horses in the South, by which their cavalry became weaker in numbers. But, more than the weakness in numbers, it compelled the Southern cavalry leaders to be cautious and husband horses that could not be replaced. A cautious cavalry soon becomes over-cautious, timid for the safety of its horses; and timidity of action is the bane of success.

But all the good in the United States cavalry at the close of the war was originally owing to the teaching of their adversaries. Men inspired by sectional vanity and *esprit de corps*, may feel disposed to deny this. The impartial observer of future times will confess it, and also admit that the pupils finally beat their masters.

Good cavalry is the most valuable species of troops. Take two generals of equal capacity, with fifty thousand men each. Let one have nothing but infantry and artillery, the other nothing but cavalry and its proportion of batteries. The cavalry general in one week's campaign shall do what he pleases with the other, cutting his communications, harassing his pickets, starving him out, and keeping the field with impunity, when his antagonist is forced to retreat to his fortifications and ships. Even a due proportion of cavalry will do wonders toward the success of a campaign. The war of the Rebellion is full of such instances. Stuart's cavalry

at the commencement of the war, Sheridan's at the close of it, each in its way, was the instrument with which the respective commanders-in-chief won their most important strategic victories.

In fact, the whole of the disasters of McClellan and Pope in 1862, might have been averted had we possessed cavalry. But, practically, we had none. What there was was scattered among corps and division infantry commanders, who knew nothing of its use, and who heartily disliked it. The infantry men sneered at it, and the universal opinion was that cavalry was useless except for outposts and orderly duty—in fact, to look at the enemy and run away. But in that, as in many other things, the enemy taught us a valuable lesson. By experimental proof it was knocked into the heads of our wise leaders that cavalry was good for something. Stuart's raids and charges, Morgan's rapid successes in the West, showed that the enemy knew how to use cavalry.

And so at last our cavalry was gathered together from its places of contempt, and banded together in one corps as it should be. Its progress from that moment was positively marvellous. Not a disaster befell the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac from the day that it was first drawn into the cavalry corps. It went on from victory to victory.

The progress of the North and South during the war affords material for many valuable lessons for our American cavalry of the future. Our early disasters, the South's early successes arose from opposite modes of recruitment. Their cavalry owned their own horses from the first. Ours did not.

A man who owns his own horse generally knows something about riding him. If he's a poor countryman he's quite certain to. So that you start with such a man with a great advantage. You don't have to teach him how to take care of a horse. All he has to learn is military riding, the combination of hand and leg. He soon learns this. The sabre he is only too eager to learn. If there is a good instructor, who can convince the most skeptical of the value of swordsmanship, by a few smart raps with the single stick, your men will be practising in season and out of season. It is surprising in how short a time intelligent able-bodied men will become fair swordsmen. Countrymen, too, who own a horse, have generally a gun somewhere, and are pretty fair shots—a second requisite for a modern cavalryman.

The South started with these advantages in their cavalry service.

Our troopers, on the other hand, came from anywhere and everywhere, and so did the horses. Some knew how to ride, others did not. Many were townsmen, and had never had a gun in their hands.

Prudence would have dictated drilling these men carefully before sending them into the field, and especially teaching them to ride.

The practice was to let them lie in barracks, here, there, and everywhere, drilling on foot, and with [no] arms but sabres. Threats of disbandment were constantly kept over their heads, and desertions were frequent. Then at last, all in a hurry, horses and revolvers were issued, and the whole regiment marched to the front next day, armed with weapons that they knew to be useless in the woods against carbines. The consequence was that men put on picket with revolvers became demoralized when they found themselves picked off at leisure by long-range carbines. They were ready for a stampede at the first opportunity.

I remember well in 1863, when the regiment to which I belonged was still in its green stage, coming across the Third Indiana Cavalry, recruited on the Southern plan. It was already good cavalry, though no longer in the service than ourselves, and made for itself a splendid reputation even while attached to an infantry corps. Every man owned his own horse, and, as a consequence, took care of him. In the last four words, italicized, lies the difference between good and bad cavalry.

The defects of the system of men owning their own horses are easily remedied. They should not be accepted into the service, unless the Government recruiting officer judges horse and man to be sound, and capable of active campaigning. Doctors are appointed to examine the men; now veterinary surgeons should examine the horses.

And in order to combine the excellencies of the remount depots with those of the quickly-raised volunteers the horses should be replaced to the men in case of wounds, or breaking down, as they are in ordinary cases in an ordinary regiment.

We are convinced that this plan is the only one by which America can supply herself with abundant cavalry in future wars, at the least possible expense, and with the greatest efficiency in the shortest time. Infantry and rifles are quickly raised, and, in the hands of old officers, soon become tolerable soldiers. It requires far less training now to make an infantry man than in the

martinet days of Frederic the Great. But cavalry has always taken a long time to bring to anything like efficiency, except in the instances where it has been composed of farmers and hunters owning their own horses.

Starting on a basis of good natural riders, it takes no more time to drill than infantry. In the instance of the Southern cavalry it attained a marvellous efficiency in six months. In India, moreover, the irregular native cavalry, which is raised on the same plan, each man furnishing his horse and arms, has for many years been considered the best of its kind in the world.

Any scheme of military service which requires long drilling and costly preparation is eminently unfitted for the United States. The only regular forces we have at present capable of sudden expansion are our artillery regiments. Every other species of troops we shall have to raise hurriedly in any future war. Is it wise to neglect the teachings of our last contest and court a renewal of the same humiliations and defeats as marked the years 1861 and 1862?

The American intellect proved itself capable then, like the Roman of old, of learning how to conquer from a victorious enemy. But the Roman kept his lesson in his heart and used it in his next war. And we are forgetting ours already.

The salvation of our country in the future lies in a good militia system rigidly enforced. The powers of such a system have been exemplified by Prussia in her late wars, and by little Switzerland, for three hundred years or more.

It is not that militia regiments are good for much, in themselves, in actual warfare, but they supply a raw material for soldiers already decently drilled. A very little camp and picket duty will soon turn such men into soldiers, and volunteer regiments can be raised like magic from among the old militia organizations.

If a rigid militia system were enforced among all owners of horses, high and low, compelling each man to become a militia cavalry soldier, or furnish a substitute, the raw material for excellent cavalry would be found plentiful in time of war. In the country every farmer would send a man who could ride to training, and even in the cities, the very places where you would last expect to find the materials for cavalry, they exist in numbers little thought of.

It is not the tailors and shoemakers, the factory workmen and clerks. These poor fellows go into the cavalry willingly enough, and are as useful as dummies for a couple of years. It is the hackmen, the omnibus drivers, grocers, and bakers, the hundreds on hundreds of men who own horses for business, the express companies and car monopolies, and last but not least, the rich men who keep horses for pleasure, that ought to be made to do military service, as in the Middle Ages.

At present in the single city of New York there are probably forty or fifty thousand horses in active employment, and yet the whole militia cavalry of the city is comprised in one slender brigade, that never turns out over three hundred strong, and what does turn out is a "holy show." The men who own horses seldom join, and the cavalry men hire their horses from the livery stables for a day's parade. Is it any wonder that they form a ridiculous and pitiful exhibition. And yet even this small nucleus became useful in the war, and produced from its ranks that excellent cavalry officer, Brevet Major-General Thomas C. Devin. Under a better system the North might have turned out as good cavalry as the South at the beginning; but as it was, the riders were all in the infantry, and the cavalry was raised too late to avert many a crushing defeat.

Let us change all this in the future. This is not the place to propose a detailed and specific system; but the fact being once recognized, that every man owes the State his service to defend it from invasion, every owner of a horse owes the services of his animal in like manner.

It may never be necessary to resort to the draft again in actual warfare in this country. The probabilities are strong against our requiring such an immense army as that of 1865 a second time. But the light sacrifice of ease imposed by militia service is a positive duty, and ought to be enforced on every able-bodied man who does not know his drill already. The Prussian practice of drilling every male citizen for a period of time, becoming less and less onerous as he learns a soldier's duty thoroughly, and finally leaving him a well-instructed man in the ranks of the reserve, is so obviously wise and just that its spirit should pervade our future militia system.

And, with every horse owner a cavalryman, our cavalry would spring to arms all over the country with even more rapidity than the infantry. Enthusiasm is more easily raised for mounted service. There is a dash and romance about it that takes young men especially, and young men are the best material for cavalry.



## ARMY AND NAVY LIFE INSURANCE.

WE published in our issue of January 21 a letter from Surgeon C. C. Gray, U. S. Army, in which attention was called to the plan of life insurance proposed by the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company. This company offers to establish an Army and Navy branch when one hundred officers agree to take policies of not less than \$5,000 each. When this branch is established, policies will be issued to those officers, and to any others in good health who desire to insure, on any of the various plans of insurance, and at the same premiums paid by civilians. Examinations of applicants may be made by any surgeon in the service, and the premiums paid in monthly instalments by allotment, and no policy shall be vitiated by non-receipt of the premium at the exact time, provided the premium was mailed on or before the day it became due. The insured are to be at liberty also to perform any duty, or travel in any place to which he may be ordered in time of peace or war, without invalidating his policy, or without the payment of any additional money to the company beyond the ordinary premiums. The policies in the military branch to be entitled to all dividends arising from surplus in that branch, being more or less than the dividends on other policies according to the rate of mortality in the service, but the whole assets of the company to be liable for the full amount insured. Officers desiring to discontinue payment of premiums at any time can obtain a "paid-up" policy for an equitable amount, or the surrender value in cash; and every policy issued by this company is absolutely non-forfeitable, in proportion to the amount of premium paid. This plan has at the request of the company been examined by a committee of officers to whom the subject of its adoption was referred. From this, and from the letters of General Sherman, Admiral Porter, and General Gibbon accompanying it, it will be seen that this scheme of the St. Louis company as well as the company itself has received the most cordial and unreserved endorsement from officers whose position and character are abundant guarantee of their good faith:

NEW YORK, February 4, 1871.

To the Officers of the Army and Navy.

The subject of the best mode of securing the benefits of life insurance to Army and Navy officers, has for some time occupied the attention of many of the best friends of both branches of the service.

Two plans have been suggested, viz.: first, by creating a fund composed entirely of contributions from officers and men; and second, by selecting some well-established and well-managed life insurance company, and forming a separate branch or class therein.

Our own judgment, fortified by the opinion of one of the most experienced insurance experts, is decidedly in favor of the second plan, for several reasons, among which may be mentioned the following:

It will be more economical, since the expense of organization and management will be divided among a larger number.

It will be more efficiently managed, since the best professional and business ability and experience can only be secured by large institutions.

It will be safer, since the whole funds of the company will be pledged in payment of claims in the Army and Navy branch.

A plan in accordance with this principle has been under consideration by officers of the Army and Navy since 1866, by which officers can be insured in time of peace and in time of war, wherever duty may call them, without extra premium.

The mortuary experience of the military and naval branch will be separately and carefully ascertained, and the profits of that branch will be divided exclusively among its members.

Believing the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance company to be safe, well managed, and well established, having now an income of two million of dollars, and assets amounting to six millions, after a careful examination of the subject, we unhesitatingly recommend the plan proposed by that institution, believing it obviates all the disadvantages of a purely governmental company, and secures in the best manner all the benefits of life insurance.

RUFUS INGALLS, Brevet Major-General U. S. Army.

JOHN WATERS, Commander U. S. Navy.

H. G. WRIGHT, Brevet Major-General U. S. Army.

JEF. C. DAVIS, Brevet Major-General U. S. Army.

D. L. BRAINE, Commander U. S. Navy.

D. B. HARMONY, Commander U. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 1, 1871.

General Charles Ewing, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: Your letter of this date inquiring of me the standing of D. A. January, James H. Lucas, and Henry J. Turner, of St. Louis, is just received; and I answer that I have been personally acquainted with each and all of them for twenty years, have been engaged in business with them, and knew their wealth and social standing. No better or more responsible men can be found in the whole country, and anything they do or say may be accepted with perfect faith. The wealth of Messrs. January and Lucas is estimated in millions of dollars; and Major Henry S. Turner is also wealthy, and one of the most reliable friends I have in the world, and I would risk my last cent on his truthfulness and fidelity.

Truly yours,

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

OFFICE OF THE ADMIRAL, WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1871.

J. B. Houston, Esq.

SIR: I have examined the system of life insurance adopted by the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company, and I am of opinion that it is based on liberal principles, and can be made beneficial to officers of the Navy.

I have known many cases where the families of officers have been left entirely destitute, owing to the sudden death of their head, and know of other cases where officers' fam-

ilies have derived immediate relief from the hand of the family having his life insured for some small amount.

It has always been my conviction that every officer should insure his life, no matter for how small an amount, as the pension allowed by the Government is so inadequate, even for the wants of a single person, that it would be a godsend to the family of a deceased officer merely to receive a thousand dollars, which can be secured by the annual payment of sixty-two dollars [At the Admiral's own age, 56 years. Ed. JOURNAL.]—an amount easily spared from his pay.

The prospectus of your company clearly explains the features of its plan of insurance; and I am entirely satisfied with the stability of the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company, as I have assurances from the best quarters of your ability to promptly meet all demands upon it.

To show my confidence in your company, and to induce officers to insure their lives, I have placed my name on the list of insured, and hope to see every officer in the Navy, young and old, added to it. Very respectfully your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER, Admiral

FORT SHAW, M. T., January 23, 1871.

Captain C. I. Wilton, 205 Broadway, New York.

DEAR SIR: I am much obliged for yours of the 5th inst., which with its enclosures reached me a few days ago.

I shall be obliged if you will send me copies of the laws of the State of Missouri governing the subject of insurance, by which I can learn in what manner the policy-holders are protected in that State. If your company does business in the State of New York, does the Insurance Department of that State have the same control over the affairs of the company that it has over companies chartered in that State, requiring deposits from it, and an annual inquiry into its affairs? I have always understood that the laws of New York on the subject of insurance were more sound and complete than those of any other State.

Does your company issue registered policies?

A perusal of your circular impressed me very favorably, and is more nearly what is required by officers of the Army than anything I have yet seen; in fact, it at first struck me as too liberal, which we do not want, if the security and certainty of the policy are thereby endangered. It may possibly be that these liberal terms may be justified by the fact that the increased risk in time of war (not a very probable event now in our country) may be counterbalanced by the slight mortality among Army officers in time of peace. I should like to know how this is, and, if it is a fact, on what data it is founded.

Please let me know how many years the St. Louis company has been in existence, what amount of business it has transacted, and what the Insurance Department of the State of Kentucky has to do with it.

I shall be glad to hear from you again. Very respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC,

PHILADELPHIA, PA., February 2, 1871.

General Charles Ewing, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I have received your letter of the 26th ult. enclosing me the printed circular of the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company, also the letter of General Sherman endorsing the gentlemen at the head of the company.

The subject of life insurance is one that interests officers of the Army and Navy more directly than almost any other class of persons, because, as a general rule, officers in the public service are dependent upon their pay for the support of themselves and families, have no means of making any provision for their families, and therefore rarely leave them properly provided for unless they have insured their lives.

The strongest argument and most practical appeal I can make to my brother officers is, that I have insured my own life. Admitting then, what I conceive no one will dispute, the imperative obligation of our officers to insure their lives, the next question becomes, in what company shall they insure? There are already several companies that offer special inducements to officers in the public service, and there has recently been much discussion with a view to establishing a company among the officers themselves under the auspices of the Government. This question each officer must and should decide for himself after careful examination. From the high character of the gentlemen connected with the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company, and from the special advantage indicated in the paragraph in italics in its circular, I consider the formation of its Army and Navy bureau greatly to be desired.

I am not aware of any other company permitting officers "to perform any duty or travel anywhere in time of peace or war without invalidating their policies or the payment of any additional money beyond the ordinary premiums;" that is, if I correctly understand this to mean that you make no distinction between officers and any others insuring, and make no extra charge for the peculiar exigencies and risks incident to their profession. In conclusion, General, you will see that my opinion is most emphatic that every officer with a family should insure his life, and that, in my judgment, he can with safety and advantage insure in your company. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE, Major-General U. S. A.

## FIRE AT WEST POINT.

THE entire roof and fourth story of the cadet barracks at West Point were destroyed by fire on Sunday last, between two and four o'clock in the morning. No lives were lost, but some of the cadets had their ears and feet frozen. The personal effects of the occupants of the upper story were for the most part consumed.

Although represented and described as a fire-proof building, the ceiling of the upper story was known to be lathed and plastered as usual. Above the ceiling and under the slated roof an open communication existed from one end of the barracks to the other.

The fire originated in the Dialectic Hall, situated on the second floor in the centre of the building, and occupying its entire width, sixty feet. It commenced in the southwest corner of the room, and the flames, rising unobstructed for thirty or forty feet, pierced the ceiling of lath and plaster, and thence, turning under the ridge east and west, swept the whole roof away. The night was bitter, thermometer 6 deg. below zero, and both engines and hose were quickly frozen. In their ice-clad attire the cadets and enlisted men worked manfully, without noise or confusion, carrying buckets of water until

the safety of the third story was fully assured. At the signal on the drum they promptly fell into their assigned places, and as a further evidence of their discipline they remained at their stations and moved at the usual commands; meantime their rooms, their property, and their all burned before their eyes while struggling to save the building. For three hours with frozen feet and ears, completely encased in ice, and cheerfully obedient to every demand made on them, they fought the flames, and, saving the adjacent buildings, they saved the Government more than half a million of dollars.

A board of officers are investigating the origin of the fire, which was early discovered by the sentinel on post No. 1. The officer of the day passed the front of the barracks on his rounds a little less than an hour before the alarm was given. A bill will be presented in Congress for an appropriation to repair the building.

The displaced cadets are quartered with their companions, and the duties at the Academy continue in successful operation.

B.

## WARS BETWEEN FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

MISCELLANEOUS RECOLLECTIONS BY A FORMER PRUSSIAN OFFICER—CONCLUSION.

IF General Trochu, in what he says in regard to the value of old soldiers, means that professional soldiers who have re-enlisted again and again as substitutes, are of no particular value except perhaps as drill-masters, he is undeniably right; but that men who have gone through a proper school of training are better than novices, is a fact which we do not believe General Trochu is prepared to deny; and that a body of troops who have made a campaign together are more reliable than any troops without such experience, is likewise sure.

Trochu's objection has merely been raised against the substitute system in the French army, which produces a sprinkling of old drill-soldiers, who have saved money and whose influence is certainly a bad one when it comes to war. Napoleon I. wanted young but drilled soldiers, old non-commissioned officers, young lieutenants, old captains and battalion commanders, young colonels and generals—a combination which it is difficult to obtain, and which is perhaps only to be got in a very large army, which is almost always at war, as his was. In this case frequent transfers enable the chief to promote for merit, without directly offending those who do their duty bravely, but are not gifted for higher positions.

Napoleon was victorious again during the first campaign of 1813. He conquered at Lutzen and Bautzen, but the results of these victories fell short of his former exploits and proved that the new Prussian army was not by any means to be compared longer with that which had been annihilated in 1806; for the first time the Emperor condescended to accept an armistice without requiring vast provinces and fortresses as a price for his compliance. During this cessation of hostilities Austria undertook to mediate, but Napoleon could not bring himself to abate his pretensions to be the ruler of Europe, and Austria, though unwillingly, joined the coalition, and the second campaign commenced. We mostly hear of the battle of Leipzig on this occasion, but the events previous to this action, which was merely the finale, are very interesting. Napoleon had the centre lines, but, although he repulsed the final great assault at Dresden, all his detached generals got beaten and he had to accept the law from the enemy at Leipzig.

Prussia during the whole war had the task of keeping the allies in tune and reconciling their very different interests. Her generals, especially old Field Marshal Blücher, with Gneisenau his chief-of-staff, the Moltke of those days, had always to push, and they were by persuasion and example the leading parties, though the number of their soldiers was not the greatest by any means. And up-hill work it was—Austria, still tender toward her emperor son-in-law; Russia, jealous to be recognized as the leading power; Bernadotte, the crown-prince elect of Sweden, an old marshal of France, who fought merely because the policy of Sweden led him that way. At this point we might mention an anecdote to show how Prussia endeavored to manage these things. Bernadotte commanded the Army of the North, his own and two Prussian corps, for the purpose of covering Berlin. Napoleon threw against him first his Marshal Oudinot, who had all but reached Berlin, when he was repulsed at Gross-Beeren by the two Prussians almost against the orders of the crown-prince of Sweden. Then Marshal Ney was sent against Bernadotte, who was then slowly advancing toward the Elbe. The latter ordered a retreat again was about to abandon one of the two Prussian corps, already engaged, in a very precarious position, when General Beulow the commander of the other Prussian corps came to the rescue almost in defiance of Bernadotte's orders and defeated Ney in a brilliant battle. This time Bernadotte formally complained to the King of Prussia, saying, though it had turned out well so far, he could not be responsible if his generals would not obey. The King wrote a letter to General Beulow, censuring him for his disobedience, and requesting him to do better; but he enclosed without another word the Grand Cross of the Iron Cross.

Napoleon was driven from Germany; but the same untamed spirit of pride which had made him refuse the very modest terms proposed by Austria before she joined the coalition prompted him again to refuse all offers of peace. The allied armies crossed the Rhine on the 1st of January, 1814; Paris was taken on the 30th of March and Napoleon dethroned. In this campaign again Blücher represented the spirit of action. Napoleon remained always in his adversity the great general; and his campaign of 1814 is again a most striking example of what may be done on the interior lines, even against superior numbers, by rapidity of movements; and it was in fact Blücher's energy alone which spoiled his game. Paris surrendered after a gallant defence of the French;



but Colonel Hiller—commanding Blucher's vanguard, by the bye, the father of Lieutenant-General Hiller, who fell on the field of Königgratz, as commander of the First division of the Prussian guards—when the French had given up fighting at the gates of Paris, entered the city with his aide and a few orderlies, rode directly to the dome of the Invalides, and took the sword of Frederic the Great, which had been deposited there, to return it to the King as the most precious trophy.

The campaign of Waterloo is in its first conception worthy of Napoleon's genius; but the execution was faulty. Prussian military critics agree that the mistake committed originated with Napoleon himself, who had afterwards made poor Grouchy his scapegoat, according to the French custom of crying "treason" if anything goes wrong. The delay of Napoleon in despatching Grouchy in pursuit of the Prussians on the 17th of June, at 11 A. M., instead of ordering him off at daybreak, made it impossible for Grouchy to discover in time the actual line of retreat taken by Greiseran. Napoleon did not display the old energy of 1805 and 1806. In those times—and this is another interesting fact—there was no jealousy between Wellington and Blucher. The Prussians never claimed to have saved the English army, simply because Wellington would not have accepted the battle except for Blucher's promise to join him, given on the night before the 18th. The Prussians only claim to have made good their field-marshal's word. A great many controversies have lately been revived, very unnecessarily, I should think. Is the alleged saying of Cambronne true ("La garde meurt, mais elle ne se rend pas")? The imperial guard did die almost to a man, what matters the word?

In the evening of this day Napoleon was just taking some rest in his carriage at Genappe, when the Prussians reached the place. Napoleon had to jump on an orderly's horse, without his hat, without his sword; and the Prussians—a battalion of the Sixteenth Infantry—two minutes after took the carriage, with all the Emperor's belongings. The insignia of the Order of the Black Eagle worn by the Emperor were given to General Greiseran. The sword was presented by the King to the corps of cadets in Berlin. The great hall of this institution is called the Marshal's Hall; and portraits of all the Brandenburg and Prussian field-marshal, and no others, cover its walls. Here Napoleon's sword was deposited, under the portrait of Blucher, and there it is to this day. We don't think Napoleon III. actually surrendered his sword to King William at Sedan; but his sword would be rather poor company to that of Napoleon I., anyhow. Napoleon I. was the great soldier of the last; Napoleon III. never was a great soldier at all.

The official declaration of war in 1870 was presented in Berlin on the 19th of July—the anniversary of the death of Queen Louise, the King's mother, and the King this very day revived the order of the Iron Cross, extending, of course, the right to revive it to all Germans. Nobody in Europe thinks much of those orders which are given in peace, not even the knights themselves; but those war orders, like the Iron Cross, the order of merit inaugurated by Frederic the Great, the Russian order of St. George, the Austrian order of Maria and Teresa, Napoleon I.'s Cross of the Legion of Honor, are held in esteem. The Iron Cross is saluted by all sentinels, even on the breast of a civilian—he has been a soldier of course. Any man who presumes to display the cross without being entitled to do so gets six months or so penitentiary for false pretences. Very few knights of the wars of 1813 to 1815 survive, the youngest, of course, must be of the King's age, seventy-three. Of generals still in the service old Field-Marshal Wrangel is knight of the first class; Falkenstein and Steinmetz are knights of the second class; and some fifty retired officers and soldiers may still live who have worn the cross, these fifty-five years.

It has been the different political development of France and Germany which has in times past given to France a preponderance which she has always abused. The rulers of Germany nearly succeeded in introducing a centralization in Germany, which France has had the doubtful fortune to have forced upon her by Louis XI., Richelieu, and Louis XIV. Even now we see how careful German princes and representatives are to preserve as much as possible of their "State rights" against the new imperial government, which for the first time for centuries fairly promises to guarantee to Germany unity and freedom under the leadership of Prussia, which from this moment has ceased to exist as a separate nationality after the fulfilment of her historical mission.

The tide of the "fortune of war," however, moves both ways, and the conquerors should never forget that almost all nations are brave, and success depends on conditions which are often foreign to the general combative faculties of a nation. War is an art. Just as the painter represents an idea of his time on the canvas, but has to remain true to the unalterable laws of beauty, so in war are some few principles which hold good under all circumstances, and the task of the artist is to procure and to use his means and materials in accordance with these laws. Artists are born, which does not mean that the artist need not study. The art of war is actually recognized all over this wicked world as the first, not by any means because the master-pieces of this art are always bestowing blessings upon mankind, but because to be an artist in that line does not only require inborn genius and the study of all the supporting sciences, but certain moral qualities of character of the highest order which other artists are seldom in need of. C. v. H.

THE Versailles correspondent of the London Times gives us the following remarks upon the guns and projectiles around him:

Last night (Saturday, January 7) a gun in one of the St. Cloud batteries was struck on the muzzle by a shell and dismounted, the carriage being injured more than the wrought-iron tube. As to these carriages, the Prussians say nothing can be better; and yet they are makeshifts. The old carriages were too low. But Prussians are economical and ingenious. Though old, they

were solid and sound. Major-General de Guern, in whom many of our artillery officers will recognize an old acquaintance, a Russian officer of high professional reputation, says he has never seen better. So the Prussians made a kind of triangle of wrought iron to fit on the carriage, on the apex of which they put the trunnion box, and thus the gun was raised three feet higher, giving it great command. The Prussians can get 31 deg. 30 min. easily, and the carriages and triangle are not in the least degree injured. By lowering the limber into a pit, or raising the front of the carriage on an inclined plane, they get 40 deg., and the carriage is still free from harm. As to the severity of the test there can be no question. There are some of those guns and carriages which have been used at Strasbourg, and have borne the shock of 1,600 rounds. The Prussian battery is a simple earthwork and gabionade of a suitable form, about twenty-two feet thick, with strong traverses, and the guns look over the top, the use of embrasures being dispensed with. What degree of depression they can get I do not know, but they can certainly plump a shell into a house not 1,000 yards off, and far down below them, as they did in the French guard-house opposite St. Cloud when they opened fire.

We can do everything at Woolwich, it is said by Woolwich, better than it can be done anywhere else, and no doubt our artillery officers are most highly educated and accomplished men, and our Government is most liberal in its experimental researches on gunnery. Well, I venture to submit to consideration some facts which may be worthy of it, although hard words may be used against me. The first of these is the very small power of the shells, either French or Prussian, against the regular masonry and even the strong earthwork of the forts, and against the revetments of the batteries. This want of power is due to the immediate explosion of the shell. The percussion fuse, striking against the stone of frozen earth, is fired at once, and rapid as the velocity of the shell may be, before it has well penetrated the bursting charge has been ignited, and the rear of the shell is blown out, the rest not doing much damage. This result of course cannot be fully observed when fired against iron plates, which are supposed to bury the shell. Next is the question of the explosion of the shell itself, and of the nature of its curve, on which the action of the percussion fuses must depend. There are places where these shells lie thickly, and if you make a careful examination of the ground you will see they all without exception lie on the side—not one is to be found with its nose stuck in the ground or the pointed end buried. When that nose strikes the shell bursts. But then it appears seldom or never to do so, even from the highest elevations. Two burst close at St. Germain the other day which I observed, but they were fired at very high angles, almost like mortar shells, and one plunged into a sloping bank, which accounted for the bursting. There is no ricochet—scarcely any, at all events—from these shells—elongated projectiles of which the body is perfectly cylindrical, the point being like a candle extinguisher placed on the end of the cylinder. They strike the ground, give a sort of hop, step, and jump, and topple over in all sorts of angles, sometimes turning right over so that the point lies toward the gun that fired it.

I am now writing of French guns only, but I presume the Prussian percussion shells do not materially differ. The loss of powder is very great. A long shell which does not burst is a very harmless projectile, and not comparable to an old-fashioned round shot, if you could only give the latter the range. Again, when the elongated shells do burst they are not so destructive as the round shells, because of the defective capacity for the charge. It is observed that the large French shells of 180 lbs., which contain, it is said, 4 lbs. of powder, break into about six pieces—one, the rear; two, the nose and end of the cylinder; three and four, two large pieces from the sides; five and six, two smaller pieces from the sides—all jagged, and each quite sufficient to cause serious bodily detriment to the strongest constitution. The Prussians say they get at least eight, and at most twelve *scats* from a similar projectile. There is a report from one of the batteries that the French fired shells the day before yesterday with three distinct detonations! But this is very puzzling.

THE Ralston correspondent of the Daily Post, Santa Fé, New Mexico, under date of January 25, gives the following: "A week since fifteen men left this place to prospect for gold on the Chiricahua Mountains. News has just been received here from Apache Pass, through the mail driver, that the party were attacked by the Indians. Two of the party had left for Fort Bowie to obtain assistance, and before they left two of their number, Robert Schell and Hugh O'Neill, had fallen. There is intense excitement here. The fear and suspense regarding the prospecting party is terrible, as it was composed of our best men. The mail from Los Limbres to Lameisella has been captured by the Indians. Captain Russell of Fort Bowie left an hour after the news had reached there with a detachment of twenty-five men to render aid. The Indians also stole and drove off about 3,000 sheep belonging to Cristoban Chaves of Belder. Two men were supposed to have been killed by the Indians, as they had not been heard from on Monday. Several citizens started in pursuit, but they have not yet been heard from. The Indians drove the sheep in the direction of the White Mountains. General Getty, who has been in command of this military district for several years, having been transferred, left the city yesterday with his family to join his command, the Third United States Cavalry, at Key West, Fla." From San Francisco, February 2, comes the news that the Chimanhuevis and Mojave Indians had a pitched battle at Williams's Fork, on the Colorado river, a few days before. The Mojaves were routed with the loss of thirty-six braves. The Chimanhuevis lost their head chief, one of the ablest thieves ever born, and twenty braves. The Indians attacked a train between

La Paz and Wickenburg, Arizona, causing the horses of the train to stampede for forty miles.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE CELEBRATION OF WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—Inasmuch as Washington's birthday has been declared a legal holiday—a declaration, by the way, too long delayed—it would be wise for the National Guard to devise some rational way of celebrating the anniversary. In past years some few organizations have recognized the day by social reunions, but year after year the larger portion of our citizen soldiery have totally ignored the occasion, while events of minor importance have been duly celebrated by parades and other military demonstrations. It has been suggested that the First division of New York make a parade in full winter uniform on the 22d, but this is scarcely feasible when it is considered that but five regiments of this body would be able to parade with overcoats, certainly very essential portions of a soldier's uniform at this season of the year. The parade of some eight or ten thousand troops in the soldierly blue coats and dress hats would undoubtedly be a very handsome sight, and renew vividly recollections of our noble Army while in the field; but at the present time, for reasons above stated, the attempt would be useless and detrimental to the service. Another drawback to a parade at this season of the year is the uncertainty of the weather and condition of the streets. Take for instance a parade through our city with its avenues blocked and covered with slush as it was last week; we fear such a march would scarcely be acceptable to any member of the division, be he ever so patriotic. Still the day should be generally observed, and we see no other plan than an indoor celebration, which shall, if possible, call together the representative members of one of the finest volunteer organizations in the country to help to commemorate a great event, and at the same time to serve to cement more closely ties of comradeship. The plan we would suggest is a general reunion of the officers and non-commissioned officers of the division, to be held in some suitable building where an opportunity would be offered to commune with one another, and where subjects of interest to the division could be discussed in a social way. We think an association might be formed and designated "The Officers' and Non-Commissioned Officers' Association, First Division N. G. S. N. Y.," with regular by-laws and officers, with its objects mutual acquaintance, social intercourse, and protection of common interests. A body of this character, if well managed, would accomplish more and have vastly more influence than the State Military Association as at present conducted. We trust this subject will receive some attention, and that hereafter the National Guard will at least pay proper homage to the birthday of Washington.

THE NINTH'S ANNUAL BALL.—The second grand military social event of the season occurred on Thursday evening last at the Academy of Music, the famous Ninth regiment, Colonel James Fisk, Jr., giving a ball characterized by unusual brilliancy and successful management. The expectations of the National Guard and the public generally had been considerably exercised as to this event for some time previous. When we say that the ball more than met the most sanguine expectation of the regiment and the public, it is therefore saying a good deal, but not too much. The Academy perhaps has been filled with larger assemblages, and greater and richer toilets may have graced the floor, but seldom has a ball been held in this building at which greater or happier efforts were made to please the guests and secure their comfort. The assemblage, as a rule, was most select, barring those obnoxious personages whose presence it is almost impossible to exclude, especially from a conspicuous ball and where any person can participate by the mere purchasing of a card of admission. Their attendance, while somewhat detracting from the ball, does not materially affect the character of the organization offering the entertainment; for instances are too numerous where just such characters have dimmed the otherwise pure brilliancy of these assemblages.

The decorations of the Academy were not profuse, but simple and effective, concentrating in the main in and around the stage and proscenium boxes, which latter were set apart for the most distinguished guests. Pending from the roof of the building and immediately in front of the stage was the Maltese-cross-shaped regimental pin, in brilliant gas jets; and on either side were scenic effects, and stationary and pending were vases containing natural and fragrant flowers. On the left of the stage was an elegantly designed representation of the regimental pin formed of rare natural flowers, from the centre of which a vaporizer sent forth delightful perfume during the entire evening, the fragrance pervading the whole building. The vaporizer was the happy work of Mr. J. C. Roston. The orchestra was divided for promenading and dancing, and comprised some 175 pieces, under the management of Carlo Patti, musical director, and D. L. Downing, band leader. The music was one of the marked features of the entertainment, and seldom has the Academy been filled with sweeter musical strains. One of the selections in particular by the grand orchestra, under Carlo Patti, attracted unusual attention. It was the musical representation of a steam engine, steam whistle and all being introduced during its performance. The selection was loudly encored, and during the playing all momentarily forgot the dance or promenade and surrounded the orchestra—



very unusual circumstance by the way at a ball. The orchestra, we omitted to state, was stationed in the rear of the stage, and the brilliant scarlet uniforms of the musicians, as well as the music itself, attracted no little attention. The attendance of guests was numerous, the most prominent officers of the Regular and National Guard service being present, the majority of whose names have already been published. The management was almost perfect, and the various and numerous committees worked in harmonious accord, all endeavoring to make the guests comfortable and happy. The viands of the committee room were Delmonico's best, and the offers of courtesies judicious and liberal. The order of dancing was handsomely gotten up, and bore a very finely executed portrait of the regimental commander. In conclusion, the Ninth's last social effort may be readily pronounced a happy success.

**SIXTH INFANTRY.**—In almost every regiment there is invariably one or more companies particularly remarkable for social characteristics, in addition to what other good qualities they may possess. The annual gatherings of these companies somehow or other secure the entire attention of the regiment, and in fact have been known at times to draw as large assemblages as the regimental organization itself, sometimes proving even more attractive. The reason of this is easily understood by those who attend these gatherings: it is good management, tact, and skill on the part of the hosts, and that certain social magnetism which makes one man's company, dinners or receptions more enjoyable than another's. Just such a gathering and just such management characterized the seventeenth anniversary soiree of Company H of this progressive regiment, Captain Max Zenn commanding, which took place on the 3d at the well-known and favorite resort of our German friends, the Germania Assembly Rooms. The spacious rooms from early evening to early morning were filled with the best element of the old Sixth's friends, setting forth strong and indisputable evidence that Company H is still able to uphold its well-earned reputation. What with dancing carried on with true German spirit and hearty sociability, a more enjoyable ball it would have been hard to attend. One of the pleasing incidents of the anniversary celebration was the handsome tribute paid Captain Zenn by his favorite followers, the members of the company. This was the presentation of a very elegant sword and its appurtenances. Colonel Sterry made the presentation in a happy manner, and Captain "Max" responded, as only surprised men can do, briefly and effectively. Supper soon followed, and wine flowed then and at all times during the evening with unprecedented generosity. The whole affair was only another generous effort of the company, which we trust will never die out. Among the many guests present were Colonel Sterry, ex-Colonel Mason, Lieutenant-Colonel Schieffelin, Major Fischer, Commissary Raynor, Assistant Surgeon St. John, Captains Blum and Alden, Adjutant Shenfield, Lieutenants Schnabel, Schneider, and Arnold, Sergeant-Major Rosenbaum, Sergeants Lang and Gans, and Drum-Major Philbert of the Sixth, Major Fleischel of the First Cavalry, Captain Green of the Eighth Infantry, Major J. W. Trafton and Captain T. R. Rand of Massachusetts, and a score of others. The following committees managed this excellent ball: Captain Max Zenn, Chairman; Floor Manager—Lieutenant M. A. Lassner; Aid—Quartermaster Sergeant D. Frey; Floor Committee—Hospital Steward L. Lang, Corporal J. G. Stern, A. Link, J. Ahrens, M. Seewald; Chairman Reception Committee—Lieutenant J. A. Levy; Reception Committee—First Sergeant Teschner, Sergeant Hirschler, A. Greenebaum, Sergeant I. Eckstein, Sergeant Wolfsehl, A. Hellenstein, L. Levenson.

**THE LAST INCIDENT OF THE "SHANDLEY PARADE."**—The appended special brigade orders we trust will serve to end the recent agitation in the division relative to the parade of certain officers of the Seventh with a so-called political target organization. The subject has already caused too much public comment; and we hope, for the good of the service generally and the Seventh regiment particularly, that the entire matter ends with this order, as it has now reduced itself to a personal matter with which the public have little or no concern:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,  
FIRST DIVISION N. G. S. N. Y.,  
NEW YORK, February 2, 1871.

**Special Orders No. 4.**

The brigadier-general commanding, having examined the charges and specifications preferred by Captain William H. Kipp, Seventh regiment Infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., against Captain Richard Allison, same regiment, and it appearing to his satisfaction that no sufficient grounds exist for ordering a court-martial thereon, it is hereby ordered that the said charges and specifications be dismissed.

By order of Brigadier-General J. M. Varian.  
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Jr., Lieutenant-Colonel, A. A. G., and Chief of Staff.

**SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—Battalion drills are ordered in this command as follows: February 14, March 22, and April 27, at the armory; and February 21, March 8, and April 3 and 13, at the arsenal. Roll call at a quarter before 8 o'clock P. M. Line will be formed at 8 o'clock P. M. precisely. Private Henry Palmer is appointed quartermaster-sergeant of Company O; and Sergeant Thomas Gamble, Company F, for continued absence from drills, neglect of duty, and disobedience of orders, has been reduced to the ranks. The colonel commanding expects to see a full attendance at all the drills ordered, and would remind all members of this command that the full fine imposed by law for inexcusable absence

from drills, will be strictly enforced by court-martial and warrant.

**SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—Battalion drills by division are ordered in this command as follows: February 10, Companies A and H; February 16, Companies B and I; March 1, Companies C and K; February 21, Companies E and F; March 6, Companies D and G. Assembly at 8 o'clock P. M. At this series of drills the battalion will be instructed in parts fourth, fifth, and sixth of the school of the battalion, Upton's Tactics, paragraphs 1,120 to 1,454 inclusive.

**VARIOUS ITEMS.**—"Important if true." General Orders No. 1, issued from the headquarters of the Ninth Infantry, N. Y. S. N. G., announces that "the drills of this regiment will hereafter conform in every respect to Upton's Tactics." As Upton's has for some time been the authorized and acknowledged tactics, we, as well as the National Guard generally, would inquire in whose tactics the gallant Ninth has been practicing heretofore;—Fisk's tactics?..... Captain Heathcote, the capable commander of Company F, Forty-seventh Infantry, we learn with regret, has forwarded his resignation, and is now we opine on the lookout for fresh fields and pastures new; and this after the very complimentary remarks of ours in a recent issue! The captain was at one time connected with the Eighth, Company G, which while under his command entered into competition with Company K of the same regiment; he then after earnest solicitation assumed command of Company F, Forty-seventh, which under his control experienced both prosperity and adversity, but is now at its zenith as regards strength and drill. Perhaps under ordinary circumstances the present is a good time to resign, but still our friend the captain must bear in mind that the old adage, "A rolling stone gathers no moss," might prove true even in his case. We therefore would advise more stability. This advice is applicable to many officers in the National Guard, whose ambition or something else renders them sometimes, to put it mildly, unreliable.....How many of the regiments of the First division of the National Guard of this State propose entering into competition for the \$1,000 stand of colors offered by the Washington Carnival Managers for perfection in drill? A prominent colonel during the week has visited New York to make arrangements for the visit of the Seventh and Seventy-first regiments to Washington for this purpose. A certain prominent officer of the division, we are informed, in a jocular manner stated that our municipal authorities would supply the regiments of the division with stands of colors costing two or three thousand dollars or more, if the regiments would only make proper application; therefore he saw no necessity for this competition and long journey to Washington. But seriously, we learn General Sherman has been asked to review all the National Guard troops who may attend, and a competition will take place on the 20th..... Is it not about time that some live movement were made by the officers of the First division to secure the proposed parade ground for its use? Why allow a civil association to take the initiatory steps in this matter? We trust the officers will not let the Legislature close its present session without the passage of a bill incorporating this parade ground as an addition to the Central Park.....The gallant Seventy-ninth, it is said, has a war claim of some \$10,000 on the Government, to obtain which strenuous efforts are now making. When this money is secured the command will again, it is said, make its appearance in the famous Highland costume, with "kilts." But why wait the slow progress of the War Claim Equity Court? Is there not enough of the native clan left to fill up 'and uniform what was once one of our city's most attractive and famous commands? We think there is; so let us have again the lively bag-pipe.....Company K, Twenty-third Infantry, recently commanded by a Partridge, who a short time since soared into the field, is now led by a Lyon.....There is a complaint from the officers and members of the Twenty-second about the non-reception of regimental orders. We add our own to those of the regiment, not having received an order for some time, except when procured from the publishers, Messrs. W. C. Rogers & Co. Who is to blame, our friend Adjutant Harding or the non-commissioned staff? Or is it the recent marriage of Sergeant-Major Alexander that causes this disorder?.....A Joyous entertainment recently took place in the Twenty-third Infantry.

**FIRST INFANTRY.**—We have received the following resolutions, which apparently tend to settle the recent difficulty between Colonel Perley and Captain Langbein of this regiment:

At a special meeting of Company E, First Infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., held at the regimental armory on Thursday, February 2, 1871, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, We have unlimited confidence in the said J. C. Julius Langbein as a soldier, and cherish for him unbounded esteem as a gentleman; therefore,  
Resolved, That we, as a company, and as individuals, have protested against the action of J. C. Julius Langbein in tendering his resignation as captain of this company, and hereby earnestly request the withdrawal of his said resignation.

Resolved, That we deeply regret the unpleasantness between said J. C. Julius Langbein and Colonel Perley, commanding the regiment, and respectfully request the said Colonel Perley to return said captain's resignation at once.

Resolved, That a committee of three, consisting of Sergeant George H. Jackson, Corporal G. W. Cowtan, and Private John A. Wallace, are hereby instructed to proceed forthwith to regimental headquarters and present these re-

solutions to Colonel John K. Perley, and also serve a copy of the same upon Captain Langbein.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be placed upon the minute book of the company.

On the evening of February 2 Corporal William Graves was promoted sergeant, and Private Charles Thompson corporal of Company E. On the same evening two handsome regimental badges were presented by Captain Langbein and Lieutenant Maskey to Sergeant Graves and Corporal Hayes for bringing into the company during the past year the greatest number of recruits.

**FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—The right wing drill of this command, held on Monday evening, was up to the high standard of the regiment, although the movements executed were rather monotonous. Colonel Austin, as usual, was in command. We hear this command is willing to participate in the grand carnival to be held at Washington on the 20th instant, if the citizens of Brooklyn will contribute the small sum of \$4,000 of the \$5,000 expenses to be incurred. We think the regiment under these circumstances will stay at home, like the majority of the other organizations in both divisions invited.

**TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.**—The right wing of this command drill on the 9th and the left wing on the 17th. The feather plume formerly worn in full-dress hats has been abolished, and a white pompon adopted in its stead. We presume this change is for utility's sake, and not as an addition of beauty; for the feather plumes were a very attractive portion of the full-dress uniform when the regiment paraded.

**THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.**—The battalion drills of this command, held at the Brooklyn arsenal during the week, were exceedingly well attended, and, for the opening exercises of the season, were very acceptable in point of numbers and general proficiency. The Thirteenth is enforcing steadiness, a very essential portion of the school of the soldier, with gratifying success. The annual reception of the regiment will occur at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on the 21st instant. The former social gatherings of the famous Thirteenth are a perfect guarantee of the conduct of this festive occasion. Whatever the old Thirteenth promises, it is sure to carry out, and its promises this year are numerous and captivating.

**HONORARY STAFF APPOINTMENT.**—General Shaler has taken in hand the subject of honorary staff appointment on which we made some comments recently, and has issued this sensible order with reference to it:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION N. G. S. N. Y.,  
NEW YORK, February 7, 1871.

General Orders No. 3.  
It has been brought to the attention of the major-general commanding, that persons other than those allowed by law, have been appointed upon the staffs of some regimental commanders under the title of "honorary staff officers," for the purpose of parading with the commands to which they have been thus improperly attached as if they were legally commissioned officers of the National Guard. Such appointments are entirely illegal, and the practice establishes such a bad precedent, is so subversive of discipline, and so liable to detract from the proper respect due to officers legally commissioned, that it is deemed necessary to formally prohibit it. It is hereby ordered, therefore, that no person who is not commissioned according to law will be allowed to wear the uniform of an officer, or to parade as such in any command in this division. Section 14 of Article III, Military Code, prescribes the number and rank of regimental staff officers; and article IV, those that are attached to brigades and divisions.

By order of Major-General Alexander Shaler.  
WILLIAM H. CHESBROUGH,  
Colonel, A. A. G., and Chief of Staff.

**A FOREIGN CASE, NOT OF A "YARD" CHARACTER.**—The following item in one of our foreign exchanges will serve to illustrate how volunteer militia matters are conducted in England. It will likewise show that the laws governing the National Guard of New York State are not quite as stringent as those of the "mother" country:

A Lancashire volunteer, Amos C. Ashworth, was charged before a local bench the other day with refusing to pay his subscription of £1 to the Thirty-first Lancashire (Oldham) Volunteer Corps for the year 1870; he having failed to make himself efficient was required to pay a subscription of the amount named, and as he declined to do this when applied to in the ordinary course, a summons was taken out against him. After the charge had been stated the defendant said he had "nowt to say." He was committed to prison for one month.

**NEW JERSEY.**—The first annual ball of the First battalion N. G. S. N. J. took place at Germania Hall, Hoboken, on Wednesday evening, February 8. Though the weather was inauspicious, a large company assembled, among whom the fair sex was well represented, and the dancing was kept up to a late hour. The hall was prettily decorated, and the becoming toilets of the ladies, mingled with the handsome uniforms and bright orders and buttons glistening in the gaslight, made a brilliant scene. The music was all that could be desired, and the managers of the ball may congratulate themselves upon the success of their efforts in every particular.

**FIRST DIVISION.**—The daily press generally, with but few exceptions, have been making assertions all along during the "Yard" case that only poor delinquent privates were made to suffer penalties and imprisonment for non-payment of fines, etc., and that the officers were the tyrants who were let off "scot free." The following orders from these headquarters illustrates the truth of these assertions. The whole story lies here: Officers pay their fines when incurred like all good National Guardsmen, but the men who complain and suffer most are those who defy the laws and refuse to do duty or pay the fines imposed.



Pursuant to the provisions of section 235 of the Military Code, a court-martial is hereby ordered to pass upon the delinquencies of officers "absent from any parade, encampment, drill, or meeting for instruction" during the year 1870, held pursuant to division orders. Detail for the court: Brigadier-General J. M. Varian, commanding Third brigade; Colonel John Ward, commanding Twelfth Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Unbekannt, Eleventh Infantry. The court will assemble at the armory of the Seventh Infantry on Wednesday evening, March 1 next, at 8 o'clock.

The following orders from the headquarters of the First brigade are to the same effect:

Pursuant to section 235 of the Military Code, a court-martial for the trial of officers of this brigade for delinquencies occurring at parades, drills, and meetings for improvement, held pursuant to orders from brigade and regimental headquarters, during the year 1870, is hereby ordered to convene at the armory of the Seventy-first Infantry, 118 West Thirty-second street, on Monday evening, March 6, 1871, at 8 o'clock. Detail for the court: Colonel Josiah Porter, commanding Twenty-second Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Geo. D. Wolcott, Seventy-first Infantry; Major John H. Timmerman, First Cavalry. Major George R. Schieffelin, brigade judge-advocate, will attend the court.

#### OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS.

ALBANY.—The *Sunday Morning Press* is following up sharply the troops of the Guard located in and around the capital of the State. We condense the following account of a battalion drill of the Tenth Infantry held last week:

The command was formed into six companies of about eight files. The adjutant posted the color-bearer and general guides and formed the color company on the line, when the adjutant's call was beat, and the companies formed on the line and dressed, and the adjutant turned over the command, neglecting to order "guides post," and the major commenced the movements without correcting the adjutant's error. But the guides, to their credit, remained in position until compelled to move by the marching off of the battalion. The distances were well kept and the troops were steadier than heretofore, but much improvement can be made. The setting up of the men and the alignment by files seems to be generally neglected at company drills; for when dressing on the guides the files opposite the guides seemed to be afraid to touch the guide, but would dress up to within a few inches. We were pleased to notice the presence of the color-bearer and general guides, but the general guides should not act as markers, as they did in this case. The manual of arms lacked precision, and there seems to be a tendency on the part of many to slur the movements. The major persists in ordering "right shoulder arms." We noticed the major and adjutant take hold of the guides and place them, which looks bad.

Breaking from the right to march to the left by company, the first and second companies changed direction to the side of the guide by wheeling instead of turning. For "double column at half distance," the major ordered "Form divisions on third and fourth companies," and the commandant of the third division ordered "Fours right and left to the companies of the division," which is not according to paragraph 1,236, Upton's Tactics. The marching in line of battle was miserable, no two companies taking the same length of step, and the line was wavering, floating, and unsteady. The line was formed for dress parade, which as a whole was poorly executed, though some few files were quite steady, yet the general unsteadiness was too apparent. When the ranks were opened the first lieutenant of the right company was slow coming to the front, and the sergeant on the left of the battalion did not go to the rear, neither did the left file closer attend to his duty.

The following from the same source gives an account of the drill of the right wing of the Twenty-fifth Infantry:

At 7:30 precisely the assembly was beat, and four companies quickly responded, and the line was formed without equalization, two companies double rank and two single rank of about eight files front. The fifth company (C) did not report promptly, and was not allowed to take place in the line. The movements were few and the drill lasted only thirty-five minutes. The same unsteadiness which characterizes the majority of our organizations was noticeable, and the manual was carelessly executed. In all the movements the guides invariably inverted their muskets. The lieutenant-colonel dismissed the drill, and without any apparent cause the majority of the troops pounded the floor with the butts of their pieces. A guard was posted at the entrance to the drill-room, but their instructions seemed to be to pass everybody.

The Albany Academy Cadet Corps gave a very creditable exhibition in the manual on the evening of the 2d. The *Press* says:

The Cavalry Squadron held a drill in the arsenal Tuesday evening of last week. Forty troopers and four officers were present, all with white gloves. The movements were executed with more life and precision than at former drills, and the time was better. An exhibition drill before the Adjutant-General will be given soon, and in their new uniform.

The Twenty-fifth Infantry, Colonel Andes, has accepted the invitation of the Eleventh, Colonel Funk, to visit New York city next summer. The excursion will take place early in June and occupy three days. We fear wine and lager will suffer during that period.

PENNSYLVANIA.—*Lawyers v. Soldiers*.—A correspondent sends us extracts from a Pittsburgh contemporary relative to what is justly termed a "military muddle" in the Eighteenth division of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. It appears that Captain James B. Moore, of the "Grays," by legal process endeavored to restrain Major-General Pearson, the commandant of the division, from holding an election to fill a vacancy in the First brigade of said division, and also to test the general's right to hold his military position in connection with the civil office of State District Attorney. The law relative to district attorneys declares that that official shall not be entitled to hold a seat in the Legislature or hold any office under the constitution or laws of the commonwealth. After carrying the case through a course of legal proceedings the election was finally held, the court having decided that it had no jurisdiction in the matter, as the law provided a remedy after the election, and no irreparable injury would be done by allowing the election, to proceed.

The Pittsburgh *Despatch*, from which we obtain the facts of this case, in its closing article says:

But while the militia gentlemen were drawing up bills in equity and formal protests, an act of Assembly was being passed construing the act of 1850, which totally routs the "Graybacks," for the act thus passed declares that the said act is not construed to mean that the District Attorney of any county in the commonwealth shall not be eligible to hold any position in the National Guards of the State. We do not know what action will be taken by the opposition, but we think the public are heartily sick of the child's play that has been going on, and which can only result in doing untold injury to the military organizations in the division, and we would advise all parties connected with the National Guards of this division, if they have any desire to promote the interests of that organization, to drop all the "bickerings" and be harmonious. We can see by the papers submitted by General Pearson that he has done all in his power to make things move quietly and harmoniously, and has done as every good soldier should do, obeyed the orders he received from his superior officer. We sincerely hope the officers and members of the various companies who have been sowing discord will "see the error of their way," and will come to the conclusion that there is but one way to infuse a permanent and thorough military spirit into the organizations, and that is by working in harmony. But, as we said before, the public is getting tired of the child's play, and we hope the matter is now at rest and forever.

Our correspondent in his letter states that "General Pearson, who commands this (Eighteenth) division, went out in the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers as lieutenant and returned brevet major-general. He was attached to the Fifth Corps. General Rowley, who was elected brigadier-general, went out early in the war as captain in the old (Thirteenth) One Hundred and Second Pennsylvania Volunteers; was stationed at Portland Me., for some time; was commander of the Department of the Monongahela at the close of the war; and both he and Pearson were gallant soldiers." This being the case, Captain Moore could much better have devoted his legal efforts to securing the repeal of the law which, as he claims, renders General Pearson ineligible to his military position, because he holds a civil office. We fear the captain is one of those captious and impracticable reformers who think that laws and legislatures are established for the purpose of gratifying private spite, instead of being intended, as they are, to conserve broad public interests. It is a rule of law that all statutes are subject to a just and reasonable construction; and the Pennsylvania Legislature by their recent act have declared that they do not consider that the construction put by Captain Moore upon the statute he has brought to bear upon General Pearson is just and reasonable. We therefore advise Captain Moore to devote himself hereafter to drilling his company and let law alone. He had far better prove himself a good soldier than a poor lawyer.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, JANUARY 30, 1871.

#### General Orders No. 2.

So much of paragraph 1 of General Orders No. 21, series of 1870, as provides for the reduction of the Twenty-sixth regiment Infantry to a battalion, and leaving the field officers in commission, is hereby amended so that the colonel thereof shall be rendered supernumerary.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, FEBRUARY 1, 1871.

#### General Orders No. 3.

The following officers have been commissioned in the National Guard, State of New York, during the month of January, 1871:

Staff of the Commander-in-Chief.—Brigadier-General Samuel William Johnson, commissary-general and chief of ordnance, with rank from January 12, 1871, vice William H. Morris, resigned.

First Division.—Lieutenant-Colonel John Fowler, Jr., ordnance officer, with rank from January 1, 1871, vice J. J. Donaldson, resigned.

Twenty-third Brigade.—Major Edward A. Thomas, inspector, with rank from January 23, 1871, vice J. S. Clark, resigned; Captain David P. Wallis, quartermaster, with rank from January 23, 1871, vice H. W. Dwight, removed from State; Captain James Lyon, commissary of subsistence, with rank from January 23, 1871, original vacancy; Captain Charles A. Smith, aide-de-camp, with rank from January 23, 1871, vice E. H. Avery, promoted; First Lieutenant David M. Dunning, aide-de-camp, with rank from January 23, 1871, original vacancy.

First Regiment of Cavalry.—John H. Timmerman, major, with rank from January 10, 1871, vice John Madden, promoted; George Aery, captain, with rank from October 10, 1870, vice H. Fischer, promoted; Walter Murray, first lieutenant, with rank from October 14, 1870, vice Thomas Dow, promoted.

Third Regiment of Cavalry.—John H. Honecke, first lieutenant, with rank from November 10, 1870, vice H. Schmale, resigned; Harris Cohen, second lieutenant, with rank from November 10, 1870, vice H. Honecke, promoted; Reinhard van Oehsen, second lieutenant, with rank from November 11, 1870, vice J. F. Kastors, promoted; John C. Bultman, captain, with rank from November 10, 1870, vice A. Funk, promoted; Frederick Bornholdt, first lieutenant, with rank from December 7, 1870, vice Louis Kapps, resigned; John B. Speckie, second lieutenant, with rank from December 7, 1870, vice C. H. SonnenSmith, resigned; Charles B. Miller, second lieutenant, with rank from December 7, 1870, vice F. Bornholdt, promoted.

Second Battalion of Cavalry, Twenty-fourth Brigade.—John F. Moschell, major, with rank from December 23, 1870, vice J. C. Bennett, promoted; Frederick Auer, major, with rank from December 23, 1870, original vacancy; Rebecca Griffin, adjutant, with rank from December 23, 1870, vice F. Auer, promoted.

Battery B, Second Division.—Emil Brillman, second lieutenant, with rank from November 17, 1870, vice Conrad Schildmacher, resigned.

First Regiment of Infantry.—William Marshall, first lieutenant, with rank from November 30, 1870, vice George H. Russell, removed from State; Charles W. Terrette, captain, with rank from December 15, 1870, vice John Kirwan, resigned; Hugo M. Otto, second lieutenant, with rank from January 4, 1871, vice William Marshall, promoted.

Third Regiment of Infantry.—Conrad Frederick, second lieutenant, with rank from December 16, 1870, original vacancy; John H. Stubbings, first lieutenant, with rank from November 10, 1870, vice J. H. Stubbings, failed to qualify.

Fifth Regiment of Infantry.—Emil Ney, captain, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice G. Landmann, resigned; Julius Willing, first lieutenant, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice John Kimmell, resigned; Martin Rata, second lieutenant, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice Julius Willing, promoted; John C. F. Deeken, assistant commissary of subsistence, with rank from December 18, 1870, vice J. W. Funk, resigned.

Sixth Regiment of Infantry.—Cortland St. John, first lieutenant, with rank from December 9, 1870, vice A. Eidenweil, resigned; Henry Hildburg, second lieutenant, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice H. Wagner, resigned; Charles F. Robbins, second lieutenant, with rank from December 14, 1870, vice M. G. Patterson,

resigned; Charles H. Raynor, assistant commissary of subsistence, with rank from December 20, 1870, vice C. H. Raynor, retired with former colonel.

Seventh Regiment of Infantry.—Joseph H. Singer, first lieutenant, with rank from January 6, 1871, vice W. F. Taylor, declined; Francis W. Houghton, first lieutenant, with rank from January 11, 1871, vice F. A. Schenck, resigned.

Tenth Regiment of Infantry.—John A. Marlow, first lieutenant, with rank from December 22, 1870, vice William J. Dickson, Jr., resigned; Royal C. Hieby, second lieutenant, with rank from December 22, 1870, vice John A. Marlow, promoted.

Eleventh Regiment of Infantry.—Charles Grote, captain, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice George Nehrbas, resigned; Charles Oberle, first lieutenant, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice Charles Grote, promoted; Nikolaus Narwesen, second lieutenant, with rank from December 8, 1870, vice Charles Oberle, promoted; Charles Kinkel, first lieutenant, with rank from November 19, 1870, vice Charles Striffler, failed to qualify; Charles F. Baldecker, captain, with rank from December 5, 1870, vice W. B. Oberman, promoted; Charles J. Smith, adjutant, with rank from November 1, 1870, vice H. G. Schambach, resigned.

Twenty-first Regiment of Infantry.—John Muckenbach, second lieutenant, with rank from October 3, 1870, vice Christopher Max, resigned; Joseph G. West, captain, with rank from January 14, 1871, vice Robert C. Lester, resigned.

Twenty-second Regiment of Infantry.—Samuel E. Briggs, first lieutenant, with rank from December 12, 1870, vice E. H. Cunningham, resigned; Lennox Huggins, first lieutenant, with rank from December 13, 1870, vice Van Schaick, promoted; John W. Cates, second lieutenant, with rank from December 12, 1870, vice S. E. Briggs, promoted; Andrew Ritchie, second lieutenant, with rank from December 13, 1870, vice L. Huggins, promoted.

Twenty-third Regiment of Infantry.—John N. Partridge, major, with rank from January 7, 1871, vice J. G. Gregory, resigned; James M. Stephenson, captain, with rank from November 22, 1870, vice A. J. Metz, resigned; Isaac H. Carg, first lieutenant, with rank from November 22, 1870, vice James M. Stephenson, promoted; Edward G. Robertson, second lieutenant, with rank from November 22, 1870, vice I. H. Carg, promoted.

Twenty-fourth Regiment of Infantry.—John McKenna, lieutenant-colonel, with rank from December 23, 1870, vice Gordon G. Wolfe, resigned; William H. Munn, major, with rank from December 23, 1870, vice John McKenna, promoted; John Thompson, captain, with rank from January 5, 1871, vice William H. Munn, promoted; Frank H. Fales, first lieutenant, with rank from January 5, 1871, vice John Thompson, promoted.

Twenty-fifth Regiment of Infantry.—Benjamin Witman, first lieutenant, with rank from October 1, 1870, vice William Reichert, resigned; Anthony Wilpers, second lieutenant, with rank from October 1, 1870, vice B. Witman, promoted; Henry P. Roos, second lieutenant, with rank from December 30, 1870, vice George Sweeley, resigned.

Battalion Thirty-third Infantry.—Franklin B. Boers, major, with rank from December 12, 1870, original vacancy.

Forty-ninth Regiment of Infantry.—Charles E. Vanandem, surgeon, with rank from September 1, 1870, original vacancy; Francis B. Casey, assistant surgeon, with rank from September 7, 1870, original vacancy; John V. Selover, assistant commissary of subsistence, with rank from September 7, 1870, original appointment.

Fifty-first Regiment of Infantry.—Herman Michaels, captain, with rank from December 30, 1870, vice Valentine Bahn, resigned.

Fifty-fourth Regiment of Infantry.—Robert J. Lester, captain, with rank from December 22, 1870, vice Th. L. Grant, resigned; Daniel O'Neill, captain, with rank from December 27, 1870, vice A. J. Hatch, failed to qualify.

Fifty-fifth Regiment of Infantry.—Henry Schroeder, first lieutenant, with rank from December 13, 1870, vice John Wiedefeld, resigned; Valentine Schiner, second lieutenant, with rank from December 13, 1870, vice Henry Schroeder, promoted.

Seventy-first Regiment of Infantry.—Augustus T. Francis, adjutant, with rank from December 1, 1870—reappointed; T. Lynch Raymond, quartermaster, with rank from December 1, 1870—reappointed; Eastburn, Benjamin, chaplain, with rank from December 1, 1870—reappointed; Charles E. Shade, commissary, with rank from December 1, 1870—reappointed; Edward G. Higginbotham, surgeon, with rank from December 1, 1870, vice Butler, supernumerary; Lewis Balch, assistant surgeon, with rank from December 1, 1870, vice Starr, supernumerary.

Battalion Seventy-ninth Infantry.—William Mahon, first lieutenant, with rank from December 1, 1870, vice W. F. Bishop, deceased.

Eighty-fourth Regiment of Infantry.—George E. Helme, captain, with rank from December 12, 1870, vice G. E. Helme, resigned;

James W. Quackenbush, first lieutenant, with rank from December 12, 1870, vice Thomas Hines, removed from district; William Egbert, second lieutenant, with rank from December 12, 1870, vice A. P. Hinman, removed from district; William H. O'Neill, captain, with rank from January 6, 1871, vice James Gaynor, absent without leave; George Cartwright, first lieutenant, with rank from January 6, 1871, vice Edward Maher, absent without leave; John Newton Macklin, second lieutenant, with rank from January 6, 1871, vice Patrick McDonough, absent without leave.

Ninth Regiment of Infantry.—Frank H. Rodenburg, first lieutenant, with rank from December 23, 1870, vice Frank Keller, promoted.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard,

State of New York, have been accepted during the same period:

Seventh division.—John McConville, judge-advocate, Jan. 6, 1871; Forty-ninth Infantry.—Michael O'Neill, first lieutenant, Jan. 6, 1871; Fifth Infantry.—Adam Eidenweil, first lieutenant, Jan. 6, 1871; Twenty-second Infantry.—Thomas H. Cullen, captain, Jan. 10, 1871; Seventy-first Infantry.—Thomas W. Love, second lieutenant, Jan. 10, 1871; Eighty-fourth Infantry.—James H. Heatherton, second lieutenant, Jan. 13, 1871; Eighty-fourth Infantry.—Benjamin Price, second lieutenant, Jan. 13, 1871; Fifth Infantry.—H. T. Allen, major, Jan. 13, 1871; Thirteenth Infantry.—Francis Deason, first lieutenant, Jan. 13, 1871; Tenth Infantry.—Michael Scheidler, captain, Jan. 14, 1871; First brigade, First division Cavalry.—Rudolph J. Rohdenburg, captain, Jan. 14, 1871; Twenty-fifth Infantry.—George Sweeley, second lieutenant, Jan. 27, 1871; Fifty-first Infantry.—Henry Leutz, captain, Jan. 27, 1871; Fifty-first Infantry.—Philip Schug, first lieutenant, Jan. 27, 1871; Eleventh Infantry.—Charles Vogel, first lieutenant, Jan. 28, 1871; Ninth Infantry.—W. R. Macdonald, first lieutenant, Jan. 28, 1871; Eighty-fourth Infantry.—James Quack, assistant surgeon, Jan. 30, 1871; Seventy-first Infantry.—Joseph Doe, first lieutenant, Jan. 30, 1871; Seventy-first Infantry.—Joseph Ozab, first lieutenant, Jan. 30, 1871; Forty-ninth Infantry.—John S. Clark, brigade inspector, Jan. 30, 1871.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

#### MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of Fifty cents each.]

HENDRICKSON—BRYANT.—In the city of Fort Smith, Arkansas, January 21, 1871, by Rev. D. McManus, Acting Assistant Surgeon W. S. HENDRICKSON, U. S. A., to Miss SOPHIE T. BRYANT, daughter of the late Major Thos. S. Bryant, U. S. A., and sister of Captain M. Bryant, Sixth Infantry, Brevet Major U. S. A., commanding post of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

DICKSON—FARAN.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Cincinnati, on Wednesday evening, January 4, 1871, by Rev. Thomas S. Yocom, Dr. JNO. MURRAY DICKSON, U. S. A., to LUELLA, second daughter of Hon. Jas. J. Faran.

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